# VERMONT
## DEPARTMENT OF
# PUBLIC SAFETY

# 1990
# ANNUAL REPORT

STATE OF VERMONT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
WATERBURY
05676-0850

March 1, 1991

The Honorable Richard A. Snelling
Governor
State of Vermont
Montpelier, VT 05602

Dear Governor Snelling:

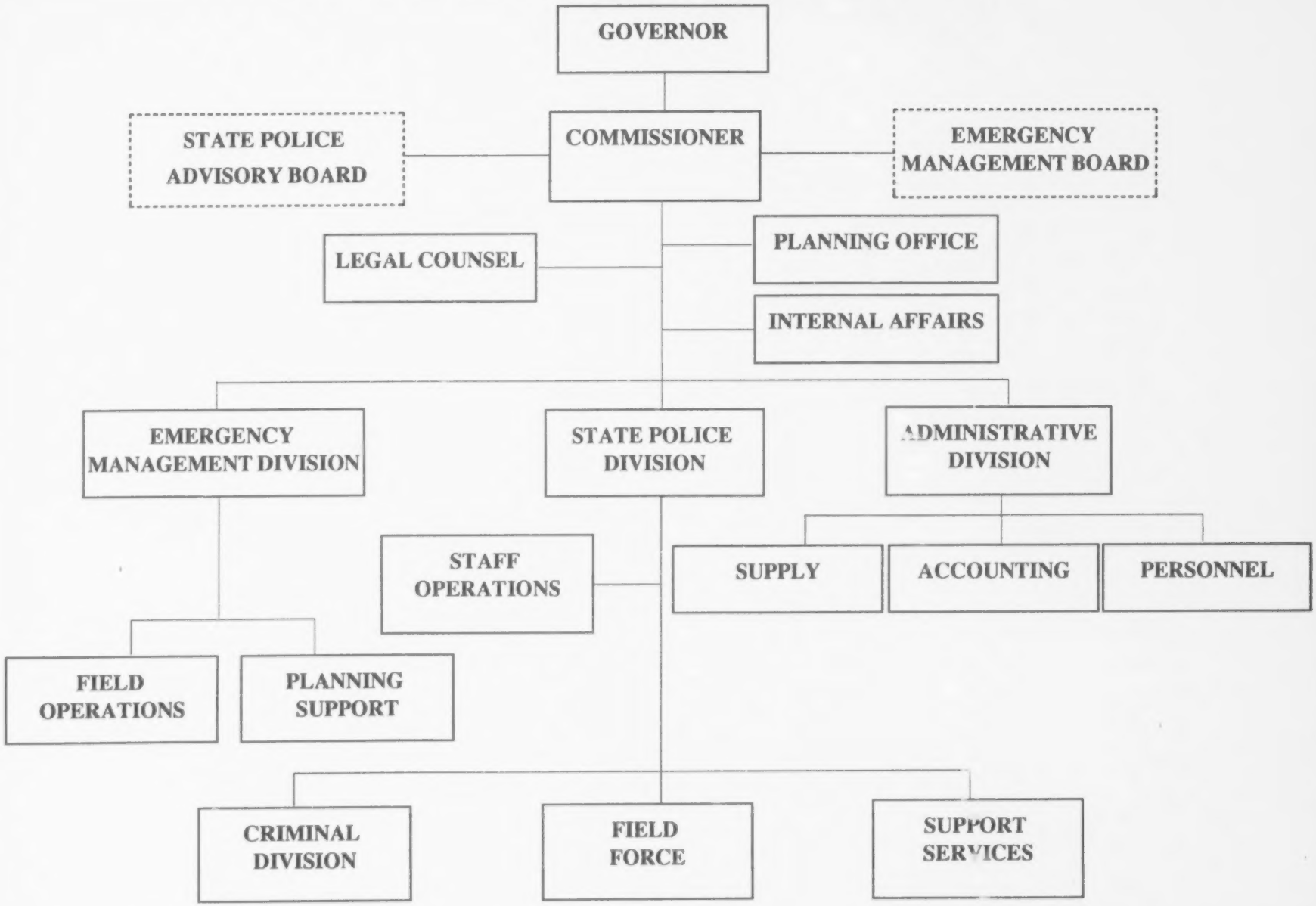
I respectfully submit the Annual Report of the Department of Public Safety for the fiscal year July 1, 1989, through June 30, 1990, our forty-third year of service to the people of Vermont.

It continues to be both challenging and rewarding to provide quality law enforcement services to the Green Mountain State. As we face the challenges of the 90's, we look forward to continued support from your office and the Vermont Legislature.

Sincerely,

A. James Walton, Jr.
Commissioner

*DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY ORGANIZATIONAL CHART*




*June, 1990*

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# MISSION OF THE VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

The Vermont Department of Public Safety is a state level law enforcement agency dedicated to serving the State of Vermont through the delivery of law enforcement and support services to provide for the safety of people and the protection of property.

***Mission of the Vermont State Police***

• Provide primary law enforcement to those communities that do not maintain their own police departments and to assist existing departments with support services as well as investigative services.

• Investigate major crime throughout the state, including homicides, other unattended deaths, arson, and the sale/distribution of illegal substances.

• Maintain a high visibility profile as a deterrence to crime by providing preventive patrols and aggressive enforcement of both the criminal and motor vehicle laws of Vermont.

***Mission of the Vermont Emergency Management***

• Develop and maintain an adequate level of emergency preparedness within Vermont, and coordinate the state's response to emergency or disaster situations.

• Coordinate and deliver the training necessary for response personnel to effectively perform emergency response functions. State, local, and private agencies are served by the program.

***Description of Population Served***

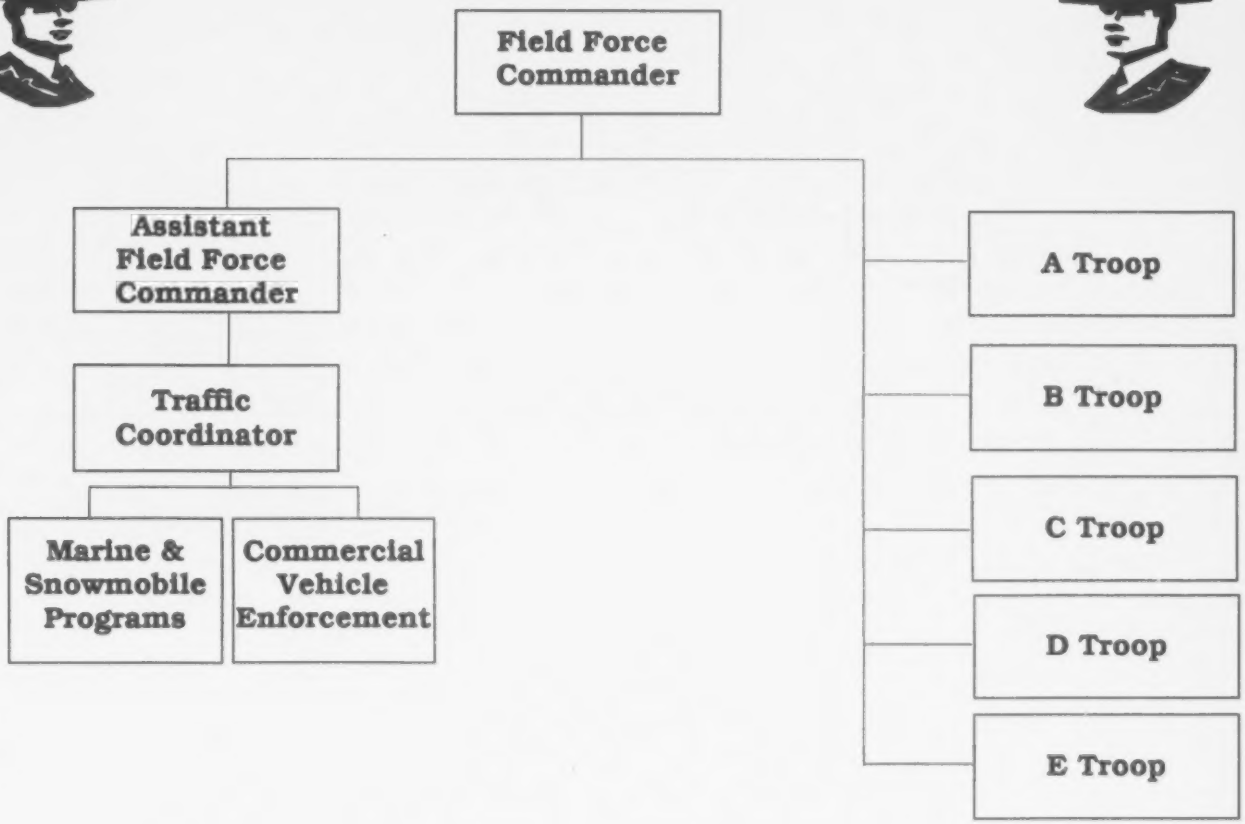
The population served by the Department of Public Safety varies somewhat on a program-by-program basis. The Uniformed Division of State Police generally provides full-time service to approximately 200 towns, or 46% of the population. In geographic terms, these 200 towns represent some 89% of the state land area.

The crime laboratory in the Support Services program serves all state and local law enforcement agencies. Criminal investigators, including the arson investigation unit, also provide services statewide, and their constituencies may include 100% of the population of Vermont

Vermont Emergency Management also serves the entire state as the liaison among municipalities, the state and various federal agencies during such events as floods, severe storms, nuclear power plant emergencies, droughts, ice jams, or other emergencies.

*Massive roadway damage from a late summer storm.*

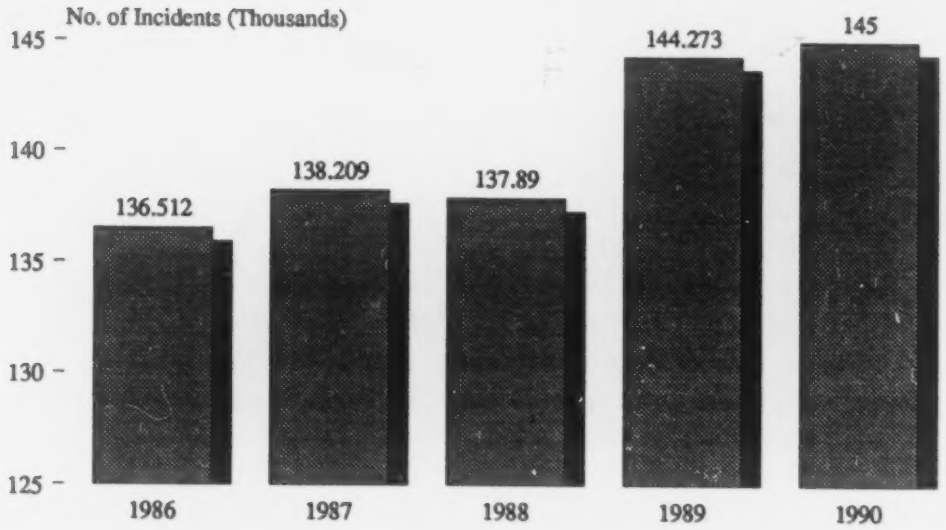
# FIELD FORCE DIVISION




The backbone of the Vermont Department of Public Safety is the uniformed Trooper on the road in a "marked" patrol vehicle. The Trooper is the person who has the most frequent direct contact with the public through routine patrol, requests for assistance, and the investigation of accidents, crimes, and miscellaneous complaints. The actions of the road Trooper go far toward establishing the image of the entire Department.

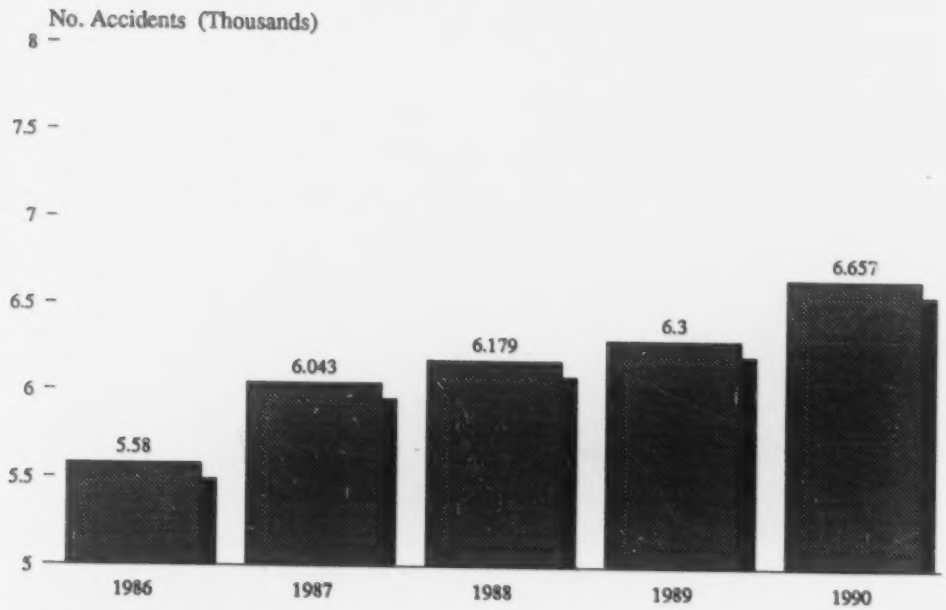
# Department of Public Safety

## Calls for Service




'90 figure based upon first 7 mo. report

## Accident Investigations




'90 figure based upon first 6 mo. report

## TROOP A

| | |
|---|---|
| **Area Square Miles** | 1580 |
| **Towns Covered** | 35 |
| **Personnel** | 40 |
| **Stations:** | Colchester |
| | St. Albans |
| | Morrisville |

"A" Troop serves the most populated area of the state, covering Chittenden, Franklin, and Lamoille counties. A total of forty available patrol officers are assigned to the troop area.

Three aircraft accidents during fiscal year 1990 were investigated by State Police in both the Colchester and St. Albans offices. Two occurred within a two week span and involved five fatalities. Winter snows were falling at the time and in one instance, severely hampered search efforts.

Coordination among area emergency management teams proved vital during these catastrophic events. Representatives from state, local and federal agencies were present at the scenes and worked together to control hazards, minimize dangerous fires, search for survivors and brief media personnel. Maintaining sound working relationships with other agencies helps to simplify the complicated demands placed on us at times of major incidents.

Diversified enforcement methods are utilized on a daily basis in A Troop which serves urban, suburban, and remote rural geographics. Each area is unique in its needs and requires divergent methods of patrol and public assistance.

The Troopers in "A" Troop are proud of their efforts to apprehend serious violators of both the criminal and motor vehicle laws. Solid citizen support is needed to continue the efforts to make Chittenden, Franklin, and Lamoille counties the best area in Vermont to live.

*Trooper making a violation stop on the Interstate.*

## TROOP B

| | |
|---|---|
| **Area Square Miles** | 2569 |
| **Towns Covered** | 63 |
| **Personnel** | 41 |
| **Stations:** | St. Johnsbury<br>Bradford<br>Derby |

The rural northeast corner of Vermont, known as the Northeast Kingdom is the home base of "B" Troop. Although the population base of 71,000 is the lowest of any troop, the area covered is by far the largest. The lack of municipal police agencies in the troop, of which there are only four, virtually leaves the Troopers responsible for all the police services for the sixty-three towns in the troop.

The thirteen civilian employees provide dispatch services not only to the State Police, but also to several other police agencies, ambulance services, and fire departments in the troop area.

In addition, the troop, which borders Canada, deals with all the problems that accompany an international boundary.

*Accident investigation on the Interstate.*

### Bradford Station

Through the combined cooperation of police agencies in Vermont and New Hampshire, approximately ninety B&E's were solved and thousands of dollars worth of stolen property was recovered in April of this year.

The arrest and subsequent assistance of one subject led to a Corinth, Vermont, residence where a search of the premises yielded yet another substantial quantity of stolen property.

### Derby Station

A picture-perfect farm setting in Charleston, Vermont, proved to be anything but when Troopers searched and seized a multi-million dollar indoor marijuana growing operation netting 2,525 plants in early February.

A Massachusetts man, who had purchased the farm two years earlier for the sole purpose of managing the state-of-the-art hydroponic operation, was arrested and convicted. Upon arrival in Vermont to harvest the mature plants, three more Massachusetts residents were also arrested.

Five days later, on February 13, 1990, a second sophisticated multi-million dollar hydroponic marijuana growing operation was searched, resulting in the seizure of 1,400 plants.

Considered to be among the country's largest seizures, both the Charleston and Glover operations

utilized the same process and distributed the marijuana to the same source.

In an effort to achieve more effective prosecution, both cases have been referred to federal court.

## St. Johnsbury Station

On May 18, 1990, immediately upon release from custody at the St. Johnsbury Correctional Center, one of the areas most notorious habitual offenders began a crime spree that would continue for the next thirty days.

On a regular basis, the male subject broke into homes, camps, or businesses often fleeing into deeply wooded areas in an effort to avoid apprehension.

Intensive manhunt procedures were employed utilizing the Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI), K-9 units from St. Johnsbury, Derby, Bradford, and Middlesex, and surveillance and alarm systems.

Following the June 16th discovery of a break-in at a drive-in restaurant in Lyndonville, a K-9 tracked the suspect through nearby woods resulting in his capture and arrest. Numerous burglary cases were ultimately documented against the subject.

## TROOP C

| | |
|---|---|
| **Area Square Miles** | 2430 |
| **Towns Covered** | 55 |
| **Personnel** | 50 |
| **Stations:** | Middlebury<br>Rutland<br>Shaftsbury<br>Castleton |

Troop C is comprised of three counties, Addison, Rutland, and Bennington, having a population of 121,000 and a patrol area of 2,430 square miles.

Presently there are three State Police stations in the Troop that are open twenty-four hours a day, and one station that is limited in services as it is only open when Troopers are present. The stations are located in Middlebury, Rutland, Castleton, and Shaftsbury. Castleton being the limited service station.

During fiscal year 1990, Troop "C" investigated the highest number of Part I crimes in State Police jurisdiction. There were 2,634 cases reported.

Troop "C" experienced the highest number of reported incidents, or complaints, in State Police jurisdiction as well with 33,923 cases reported.

Following are brief descriptions of a sampling of activity that was investigated in each station in "C" Troop during the fiscal year.

### Rutland Station

The Rutland station responded to a breach of peace in Fair Haven. When the Troopers arrived they found a highly intoxicated male that had been abusing his family. The male subject exited the house unexpectedly through a window in an attempt to escape. A foot chase ensued and during the melee a shot was fired at the Troopers from a weapon that the male subject was carrying. The male subject escaped into the woods and the darkness. In the morning the male subject was located where he was hiding by Canine Max and his handler. This case culminated in an arrest without injury to the accused or the Troopers involved.

### Middlebury Station

The Middlebury Station investigated what appeared to be a single vehicle accident that resulted in the death of the operator. During the investigation, it was determined that the accident victim was forced off the road. The non-contact vehicle failed to stop. A fine effort by Middlebury station personnel produced the accused operator and his vehicle. The accused was charged with careless and negligent operation - fatality resulting.

### Shaftsbury Station

The Shaftsbury station initiated an investigation into a double homicide that occurred in Winhall, Vermont. The accused in this case had stolen the victims' car after killing them, and fled the area. A short time later the vehicle was seen traveling north on Route 103 in Ludlow and it was determined to be headed towards Rutland. A pursuit of the accused got underway shortly by Rutland Troopers, and after many miles of attempting to stop the accused he was apprehended in Goshen, Vermont on Route 73, but not before he threatened the life of the arresting Trooper, and subsequently was shot and wounded by the Trooper.

Shaftsbury conducted an excellent investigation into the theft of auto parts and vehicles. The Shaftsbury personnel were advised by out of state authorities that the suspect in question lived in the Bennington County area. A Shaftsbury Trooper, utilizing excellent investigative techniques, recov-

*Trooper making an arrest resulting from a vehicle stop.*

ered some of the missing auto parts from the state of Florida. The accused was subsequently arrested and a press release filed with an appeal to the public for more information. A local resident responded, advising that he had rented garage space to the accused. A search was conducted of the garage and two sports cars having a value of $105,000.00 were recovered.

## TROOP D

| | |
|---|---|
| **Area Square Miles** | 1019 |
| **Towns Covered** | 29 |
| **Personnel** | 28 |
| **Stations:** | Brattleboro<br>Rockingham |

Troop "D" borders two states — Massachusetts to the South and New Hampshire to the east and works in multiple district court jurisdictions in three counties — Windham, Windsor, and Bennington. Within its area of responsibility Troop "D" has numerous ski areas and is responsible for 120 miles of interstate highway.

The personnel working out of "D" Troop have an excellent reputation for working in harmony with other agencies, and the result of this harmonious working relationship has repeatedly paid off in the successful conclusion of numerous criminal cases, ranging from child abuse to burglaries to major drug trafficking operations.

### Rockingham Station

Rockingham barracks' Troopers are the primary providers of police services for fourteen town, and they assist another five towns who maintain full-time police departments. The Rockingham office is currently staffed by fourteen uniformed division personnel consisting of ten Troopers, three Sergeants, and the Station Commander. The Clerk-Dispatcher staff at this station consists of six full-time civilian personnel who provide 24-hour dispatching coverage.

*Executing a search warrant on a vehicle.*

### Brattleboro Station

The Brattleboro barracks are primary providers of service for sixteen towns and assist with five additional towns that have full-time police departments whenever the Troopers are called on for assistance. The barracks is currently staffed with fourteen uniform division personnel consisting of the Station Commander, three uniform Sergeants, six Troopers, and four outpost Troopers.

The Brattleboro barracks is situated in the southeast corner of the state bordered on the east by New Hampshire and on the south by Massachusetts. They provide services to every town along the Massachusetts border, with Pownal being the one exception, the town in the southwestern corner bordering Massachusetts and New York. It is the barracks that provides services to the major entry points to Vermont from the south, especially to I-91, which contains a heavy volume of traffic and criminal activity. This is a major artery for drugs entering the state destined to southern Vermont and western New Hampshire.

The Rockingham and Brattleboro barracks are very fortunate to have a wide range of experienced personnel who not only apply this experience to the day to day operations but instruct others in several specialty fields.

## TROOP E

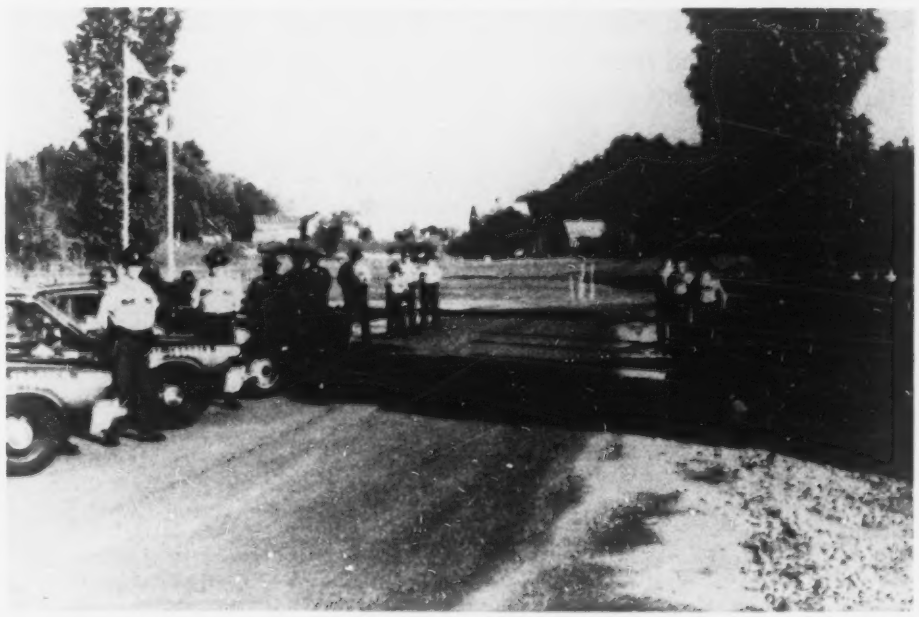
| | |
|---|---|
| **Area Square Miles** | 1420 |
| **Towns Covered** | 40 |
| **Personnel** | 39 |
| **Stations:** | Middlesex<br>Bethel |

Troop "E" encompasses Middlesex, which is the Troop Headquarters, and Bethel barracks, and serves central and east central Vermont from Woodbury on the North to Plymouth on the south. The Troop, at full strength, has a complement of thirty-nine uniform officers and twelve dispatchers.

Of the thirty-nine officers, nine are assigned to outposts, located in Plainfield (2), Waitsfield (3), Hartland/Plymouth (3), and Rochester (1). One officer, a Sergeant, is routinely assigned to Troop level Public Information/Community Relations duties.

Troop officers are the primary law enforcement available to the 52,000 Vermont residents, living in the thirty-nine towns within the Troop boundaries. The ratio of officers to permanent residents is one to 1,333 citizens. Adding the transient population, the ratio of Troopers to people is significantly higher.

The most significant service provided to other law enforcement in the area is dispatching. The Troop does all dispatching for the Vermont State Police as well as twenty-four hour dispatching for the Randolph Police Department and daily dispatching, Monday through Friday, 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. for the Barre Town, Northfield and Waterbury Police Departments. On weekends and holidays these previously mentioned Departments rely one hundred percent on the Troop's barracks for dispatching and telephone answering. Frequently dispatching services are also provided to the Department of Motor Vehicles, Liquor Control Department, some Sheriffs and Town Constables.



*Middlesex and Bethel Troopers standing by for inspection.*

## Bethel Barracks

Manpower in the barracks has remained relatively stable over the fiscal year with virtually no down time for the personnel assigned. The majority of the workload relates to crimes of vandalism, burglary, larceny, as well as enforcement of motor vehicle laws and investigation of traffic accidents.

In November, 1989, officers of the Middlesex and Bethel barracks were able to bring to a successful conclusion the investigation of over 300 burglaries with the arrest of four persons. In February, 1990, acting on information obtained through investigation, a property was searched in Hartland. Troopers seized 99 animals, and citations were issued to the property owners for cruelty to animals. Many child abuse and neglect investigations were conducted in cooperation with Social Services, and in June the last escapees from the Woodstock Correctional Center were apprehended in Randolph.

## Middlesex Barracks

Several cases required the use of the station K-9 for tracking, and the dog and his handler were able to locate and take into custody several wanted/escaped persons. In January officers were called upon to investigate what proved to be a fatal traffic accident on I-89 at Waterbury where two vehicles collided head-on in the southbound lane. Investigation revealed that the deceased was traveling north at the time of the incident. In February one of the station Dispatchers was able to put together some unrelated information which resulted in the arrest of three homicide fugitives from Connecticut. Additionally, information developed from an informant gave officers the needed information to solve many antique burglaries, recovering $150,000.00 worth of property and arresting four persons.

## TACTICAL SUPPORT UNIT *(TSU)*

The State Police Tactical Support Unit is a specialized unit comprised of ten Troopers and one unit leader. Members are stationed throughout the state and respond as needed. The special unit is a secondary responsibility for these Troopers whose primary duty is working out of State Police offices as uniform Troopers or as detectives.

The purpose of this unit is to handle those hazardous situations that are beyond the capabilities of the general work force of the State Police, particularly where specialized training and equipment are needed in order to accomplish the task. Examples of the particular instances where the TSU would be used are dangerous arrest or search warrants, armed confrontations, hostage situations, etc.

During FY'90 the tactical unit responded on six separate occasions to requests for assistance. Five of the requests were from State Police personnel and one from a local police department. Four requests were to serve drug search warrants. One request was to serve a murder warrant and one to serve a fugitive warrant. Three of the missions were successful as a direct result of the Tactical Support Unit performance. Three other missions while resulting in success did not require the Tactical Unit to accomplish the task. In these three cases the Tactical Unit was called to do the job but the situations were resolved through other means before the unit was needed.

The Tactical Support Unit trains one day a month. While one day a month is not ideal, it is adequate at this time based on the number and type of calls we have had. In addition, a one week NESPAC school was held in Rhode Island last November which provided additional important training for the unit. Training generally consists of building entry and room clearing techniques designed to gain the advantage over a person or persons wanted for crimes. Range work with specially issued tactical weapons is also part of the regular training. The training concentrates on developing methods and tactics that will lead to successful conclusions without anyone being hurt.

## CRIME PREVENTION/PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Crime Prevention/Public Information program is operated in each of the five (5) troops and is staffed by a State Police Sergeant in each Troop. Educational/prevention programs are presented on a daily basis to school children from the preschool level through college on a variety of subjects ranging from personal safety to driver education. Adult groups are also reached through this program by the Departments cooperation with various civic groups and community organizations.

During the past two years, the community educational programs within the schools have been expanded to include a Drug Abuse Resistance Education *(D.A.R.E.)* component. This educational approach to fighting the escalating drug problem in Vermont is considered to be a vital component in reducing the demand for illegal substances. These efforts will be enhanced as additional manpower or resident Trooper concepts are authorized.

Maintaining relations with the press, television, and radio is an ongoing function of this program. Press releases, public service announcements, and any other issues of public interest are coordinated by personnel assigned to the Crime Prevention /Public Information program.

During major crime incidents or demonstrations, the Public Information Officer provides a necessary communications link to keep the public informed while the incident commanders or investigators remain focused on the actual crime or event.

## EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL *(E.O.D.)* TEAM

The Vermont State Police E.O.D. Team consists of one Team Commander *(Lieutenant)*, one Assistant Team Commander *(Sergeant)* and two members *(Corporals)*, who are all graduates of the Redstone Arsenal Hazardous Device School at Huntsville, Alabama. These certified bomb technicians provide technical assistance to local, county and federal agencies whenever explosive devices or substances are encountered. Numerous incidents of recovered explosives occur annually. Although many cases involve improperly handled construction or military ordnance; there are instances of "pipe bombs", "incendiary devices", and "booby-traps" encountered during criminal investigations.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms *(ATF)* and the Federal Bureau of Investigation *(FBI)* rely on the State Police team to respond to "render safe" questionable devices. The availability of a trained team of experts, in this highly technical field, is critical to the entire law enforcement and public safety "response plan" for Vermont.

During this reporting period, the E.O.D. Team was called into service on twenty-seven different occasions. Fireworks, dynamite, and improvised explosives account for the majority of the incidents. Examples of other situations include blasting caps, bomb threats, military explosives, suspicious packages, and some other miscellaneous items.

## COMMERCIAL VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT

It is the mission of the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit to provide a safe environment to the motoring public through uniformity of enforcement of the Federal regulations and the state laws pertaining to commercial vehicles. Unit activities focused on traffic enforcement, roadside inspection and routine patrols to identify companies and drivers who are not complying with the laws.

The areas of enforcement included Federal hazardous materials regulations, Federal motor carrier safety regulations, size and weight, proper equipment, proper load securement, rules of the road, and driver impairment (alcohol and drugs).

The Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit continued to provide support to municipal, county and other state law enforcement agencies.

Joint details were operated with United States Customs, Massachusetts State Police, New York State Police, New Hampshire Department of Safety, several municipal police departments and the Vermont Department of Motor Vehicles. The Unit also participated in "Road Check 90", a three day international road check of intense inspections and enforcement.

Members of the Commercial Vehicle Unit conducted speaking engagements with several industry groups, trucking companies and fire departments.

Unit members assisted Vermont State Police Bureau of Investigation and Federal Bureau of Investigation by arresting a truck driver who was charged with kidnapping and sexual assault of a woman taken from a Putney rest area.

The Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit received a special grant to conduct truck inspections in the MCSAP program. The grant included provisions for the purchase of specialized equipment. Approximately 1600 inspections were conducted on commercial vehicles during the period.

*Trucks being delayed for illegal dumping investigation.*

## MARINE/SNOWMOBILE PROGRAMS

### Marine Program

The Vermont State Police Marine Program's primary function is boating safety and public relations. This responsibility is accomplished with a fleet of approximately thirty patrol boats, ranging in size from 14' to 25' in length.

The duties of the Marine Enforcement Program are to enforce the State's boating laws, assist in search and rescues, inspect vessels (to ensure the safety of those aboard, as well as the vessel itself), and protect Vermont's waterways from illegal dumping.

The Marine Program has acquired a Boating Safety Coordinator who has created a process of educating volunteer instructors. These instructors will teach the children affected by the mandatory boating education law mandated in 1989, as well as anyone interested in boating safety. The program has proven to be a great success in the short time it has been in effect, and it has been accepted well by the general public.

### Snowmobile Program

The Vermont State Police Snowmobile Program's primary function is to enforce the state's snowmobile laws. This responsibility is accomplished with a fleet of approximately 28 snowmobiles, ranging from 1980 Arctic Cats to 1989 Ski Doo's.

The primary goal of the snowmobile program is safety. Each year, volunteer snowmobile instructors are educated by members of the Department to teach snowmobile operators the safe operation of a snowmobile and its related hazards. The Department of Public Safety purchases the materials used in these courses.

The other duties of the snowmobile enforcement program are to inspect snowmobiles, assist in search and rescue missions, investigate accidents/complaints, and perform public relations.

*Marine Program taking the Kamp Ta-Kum-Ta kids on an outing.*

| MARINE PATROL ACTIVITY - 1990 | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| STATION | HOURS | CITATIONS | WARNINGS | INSPECTIONS | SEARCH & RESCUE |
| Colchester | 3,282.75 | 37 | 114 | 1,106 | 162 |
| St. Albans | 2,964.50 | 133 | 137 | 1,803 | 110 |
| St. Johnsbury | 902.50 | 21 | 78 | 376 | 0 |
| Bradford | 593.25 | 4 | 48 | 259 | 5 |
| Derby | 1,216.50 | 19 | 37 | 711 | 30 |
| Rutland | 1,173.50 | 28 | 51 | 555 | 4 |
| Middlebury | 2,326.75 | 6 | 43 | 471 | 38 |
| Brattleboro | 567.75 | 18 | 27 | 183 | 11 |
| Middlesex | 889.75 | 10 | 30 | 167 | 4 |
| Bethel | 671.50 | 58 | 48 | 163 | 1 |
| TOTALS | 14,588.75 | 334 | 613 | 5,794 | 369 |

| SNOWMOBILE PATROL ACTIVITY - 1990 | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| STATION | HOURS | CITATIONS | WARNINGS | INSPECTIONS | SEARCH & RESCUE |
| Colchester | 72.50 | 1 | 21 | 274 | 0 |
| St. Albans | 64.00 | 2 | 0 | 90 | 0 |
| St. Johnsbury | 211.50 | 4 | 49 | 1,184 | 0 |
| Bradford | 230.00 | 6 | 31 | 1,734 | 0 |
| Derby | 215.00 | 8 | 63 | 1,128 | 0 |
| Rutland | 382.00 | 10 | 16 | 598 | 0 |
| Middlebury | 96.00 | 4 | 0 | 5 | 1 |
| Shaftsbury | 80.00 | 26 | 19 | 885 | 0 |
| Rockingham | 26.50 | 3 | 3 | 18 | 1 |
| Brattleboro | 132.00 | 0 | 7 | 83 | 1 |
| Middlesex | 153.00 | 3 | 5 | 204 | 0 |
| Bethel | 350.00 | 52 | 20 | 863 | 3 |
| TOTALS | 2,012.50 | 119 | 234 | 7,066 | 6 |

## DIVE TEAM

The mission of the State Police Dive Team is to respond to any of the varied bodies of water within the state and conduct efficient, safe, and professional diving operations in order to rescue or recover persons from water related incidents and to recover evidence for criminal investigations.

The dive team consists of eight full time, volunteer Troopers assigned to the Field Force and Criminal Division throughout the state.

Monthly training sessions are held to continually upgrade skills and to prepare for difficult dive operations that may involve special problems, i.e., fast water, low head dams, low visibility, and deep water. In June, 1990, following a year of preparation, seven members of the dive team achieved the National Association of Underwater Instructing rating of Dive Master.

Dive Team calls for service during FY'90 were as follows:

- A total of 20 dive details were handled
- Eight body recovery dives, two of which were multiple drownings for a total of eleven drowned victims recovered.
- Ten evidence recovery dives.
- Two rescue dives.

Four of the twenty dives were ice dives, and five of the victims recovered were from boating accidents.Two of the victims recovered were from automobile incidents.Three of the victims recovered were from an aircraft accident.

FY'90 was one of the busiest dive years recorded with particularly difficult dives taking place. The following are two examples of those difficult dives.

On January 9, 1990, the dive team responded to a reported drowning in Georgia on Lake Champlain. The investigation determined that two men operating a passenger vehicle approximately one-half mile from the Vermont shoreline of Lake Champlain went through the ice and the passenger drowned. The dive was difficult because of the thin ice, distance from shore, and the water depth of 80 feet. The victim was recovered in one dive after careful preparation of the scene.

On May 31, 1990, the dive team began a three day operation near Colchester Reef in Lake Champlain searching through the wreckage of an airplane that had crashed five months earlier. The dive operation was particularly difficult because of the depth *(80 feet)* and low visibility. Adding to the problems were poor condition of the victims' remains, and the hazard of searching through jagged pieces of aircraft wreckage for those remains. A total of fifteen two-man dives were made over that three day period. All three victims were recovered.

As a result of the many evidence dives, and in particular firearms, the dive team is examining the feasibility of purchasing an underwater metal detector. The team utilized a rented underwater metal detector recently with great success.

*VSP Dive Team during an underwater recovery operation.*

## SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM

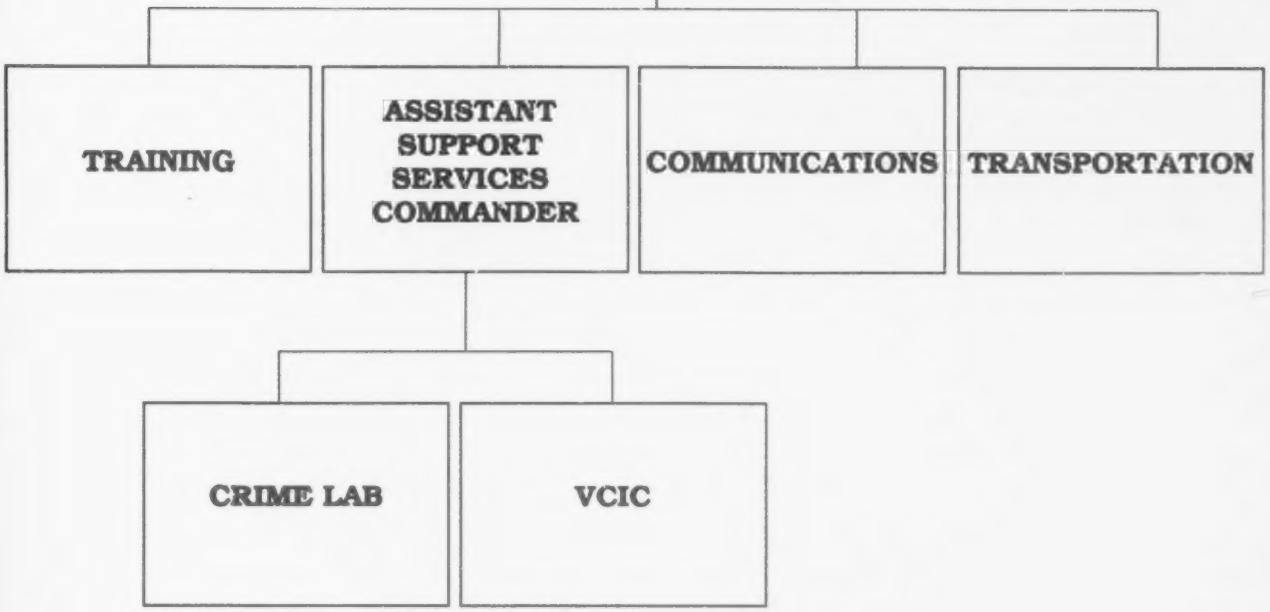
The Search and Rescue Team consists of one team commander *(Lieutenant)*, one assistant team commander (currently a Lieutenant), and twenty-three other members *(Sergeants, Corporals and Troopers)*. The purpose of the team is to provide trained and technically specialized support for locating and recovering lost and/or injured persons anywhere in the state. The team is a member and participates in training provided by the National Association of Search and Rescue. Additionally, team members participate in training exercises involving the U.S. Army's "Mountain School", learning advanced mountain and winter survival techniques.

By statute *(20 V.S.A. §1827)* the Department must coordinate local and state search efforts for missing persons. This requires extensive understanding of Incident Command Systems *(ICS)* techniques and other systems designed to effectively utilize all available governmental and volunteer resources. Team members, trained in search-grid techniques and map/compass proficiency, provide a cadre for these efforts. The team's expertise is increasingly utilized in criminal investigations where search of rough terrain or large areas requires specialized knowledge.

During this reporting period, the Search and Rescue Team was called into service on twelve different occasions. Nine of the missions involved searches for lost or missing persons, while the other three requests for service resulted in members of the team providing instruction to others such as the Border Patrol and the Boy Scouts.

*Search & Rescue Team during a training exercise.*

# SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION




The Support Services Division is the technical support arm of the Department of Public Safety. Services rendered by this Division are available to and utilized by criminal justice agencies throughout the state. Additionally, some of the services provided are used by non-criminal justice state agencies.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### VLETS

The Vermont Law Enforcement Telecommunications System *(VLETS)* provides data communications services to law enforcement and public safety agencies statewide. The message switch is located in Waterbury and connects 60 in-state locations to over 60,000 terminals in the United States and Canada. VLETS also provides access to various national law enforcement databases, i.e. stolen property, missing children, etc.

- Prior to VLETS *(1987)* monthly transactions 130,000
- Calendar year 1989 monthly transactions 600,000
- Fiscal year 1990 monthly transactions 676,000
- Major message type is vehicle registration query
- Cost per message = 2 to 2.5 cents
- VLETS system up time = 99.97 percent

### Telephone

A full PBX is located at Waterbury, and 13 key systems are at the field stations.

After a review of lines and related expenses, the first in Vermont State Government T-1 digital access facility was negotiated. Some of the results were:

- Substantially reduced interstate and intrastate calling costs;
- Quality and availability improved; and
- Validity of selection was confirmed when the rest of the State followed our course.

### Radio and Microwave

There are 25 major radio/microwave sites located throughout Vermont. Communications personnel maintain, purchase and install two-way radios and related systems *(approximately 1800 units)* as well as a statewide microwave communications network carrying telephone, radio, and data circuits for 10 state departments and some federal agencies.

Major tasks completed during Fiscal Year 1990:

- Brattleboro microwave extension-installed passive repeater and transferred all equipment from Dummerston to Brattleboro State Police barracks.
- Consoles were replaced and installed for Brattleboro, Bethel, and Derby State Police offices which included several weeks work on modifying consoles to meet our needs.
- Mt. Mansfield building project completed. All equipment moved from old building to new building.
- Microwave optimization project - all microwave stations evaluated and noise power ratio checked at each station.
- New State Police base station added on Mount Equinox and Jay Peak.
- The following radios have been replaced:
  - 30 radios for Sheriff's Department.
  - 37 radios for State Police.
  - 30 radios for Highway Department.
- New base stations installed for Highway Department at District 6 Office, Berlin, and at Central Garage.

### Office Automation

Typical office automation applications *(spreadsheets, word processing, and data bases)* were being handled on three older UNIX computers. A single expandable replacement system was purchased. The new UNIX computer was moved to the VLETS computer room and all the computer wiring in the building was redone and standardized. Software conversion was done where needed and practical.

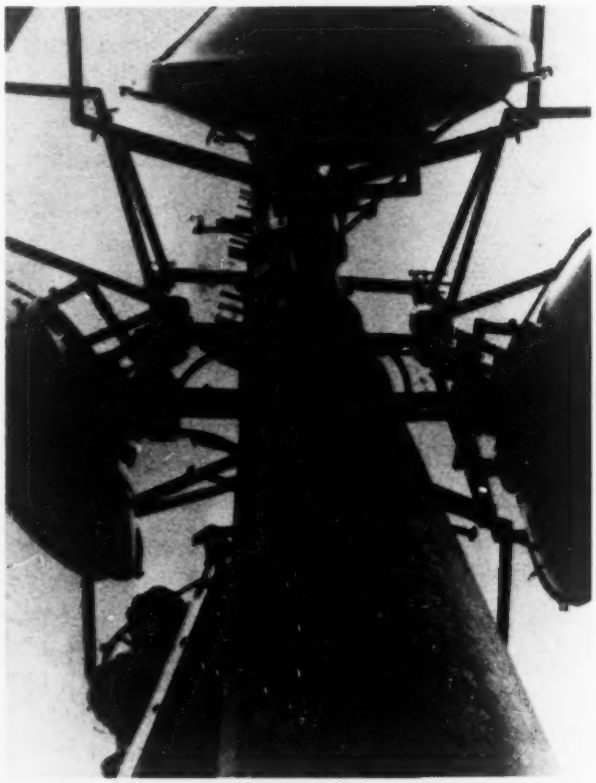
### Dispatch

Headquarters Dispatch provides a 24-hour contact point for all divisions of the department. It is the state control terminal for the FBI's National Crime Information Center *(NCIC)* computer and the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System *(NLETS)*. Dispatchers respond to requests made via NLETS for criminal history information and are responsible for entering information on stolen vehicles, plates, and wanted and missing persons into NCIC. Dispatchers monitor and coordinate response to fire alarm systems, call out rosters for various situation response units ranging from diving teams to nuclear power station response personnel, the Nuclear Alert System, the Arson Tip Line, the Hazardous Materials Hotline, the National Warning System *(NAWAS)*, and the

Department's Teletype line for the hearing impaired. They provide back-up communications in the event of a problem at a State Police troop office and keep track of the governor's location at all times.

During calendar year 1989, dispatchers:

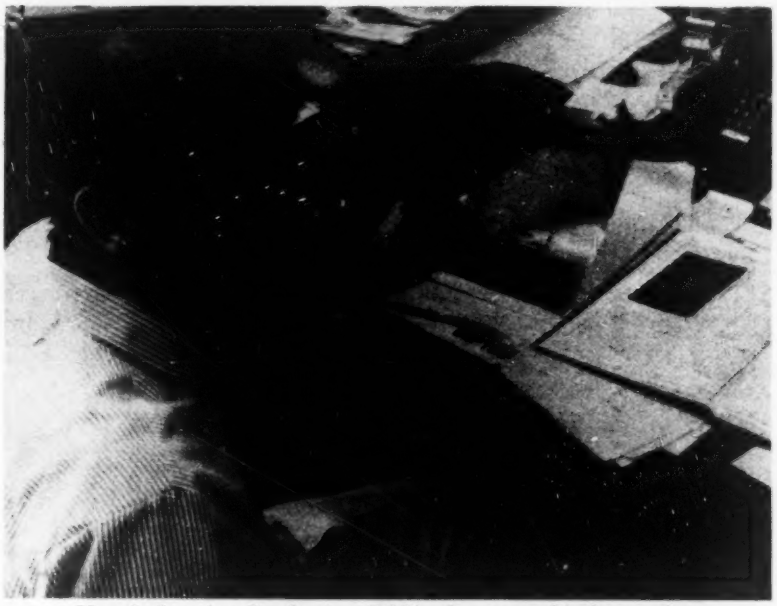
- Manually transmitted 33,000 responses to criminal history inquiries.
- Entered, modified, and cleared 4,000 records in NCIC.
- Modified 11,000 Department of Motor Vehicle records to indicate wanted persons and stolen vehicles and license plates.
- Answered several hundred calls to the Dump Tip Line and completed forms used by investigators responding to the complaints.



*Working on Mt. Mansfield microwave tower.*

## CRIME LABORATORY

The Vermont State Police Crime Laboratory provides forensic examinations of physical evidence for all Vermont law enforcement agencies. Traditionally, the Laboratory case load has had a ratio of 60% State Police cases and 40% municipal, county, other state agencies, and federal agencies. The Laboratory also does photo processing; both developing negatives and making prints. The Laboratory maintains a Crime Scene Search Team on call 24 hours daily, ready to respond to major crime scenes *(mostly homicides)* anywhere in the State. Also, the staff at the Crime Laboratory are called upon often to provide training in all forensic areas at the Vermont Police Academy, as well as other locations throughout the State.



*Head chemist displaying DNA charts and information.*

### Forensic Section

The forensic section of the Laboratory is staffed by five forensic examiners with one examiner employed as supervisor. They are responsible for the firearms, fingerprint, and photography areas within the Laboratory. In addition, these members crew the Crime Scene Search Team. During the calendar year 1989:

- 335 firearms cases were received, which includes some toolmark and serial number restoration cases.
- The firearms unit conducted 1,914 examinations of evidence in these cases.
- 70 State Police firearms were functionally evaluated and/or repaired.
- 437 fingerprint cases were received and 2,600 examinations were performed in these cases.
- Crime Scene Search Team responded to 20 separate crime scenes.
- 17,000 photographs were printed and 38,870 negatives were developed.

### Chemistry Section

The chemistry section of the Laboratory is composed of four "chemist-criminlists" with one employed as the supervisor. This section is charged with the analysis of controlled substances cases *(drugs)* , serological cases *(blood and body fluids)*, arson cases, and cases involving gunshot residue and trace analysis. During calendar year 1989,

- 1584 submissions were received in criminal cases in the above analytical areas. Submissions were received in other analytical areas e.g. paint and glass, but were sent to the FBI for analysis.
- The chemistry section has two individuals trained by the FBI in DNA analysis and work is progressing in this highly technical area. Various aspects of the DNA process have been completed and studies are underway to establish a Vermont DNA database along with numerous quality assurance issues. Actual case work may begin as early as this upcoming winter.
- Gunshot residue analysis is an area added to the services provided to the law enforcement community by the Laboratory this year. This is presently a very time consuming process, however, studies are being conducted to expedite this process.

## TRAINING

This section of the Division is involved in all aspects of State Police Officer Training. In the past, the Training Section was primarily responsible for the recruiting and training of prospective Troopers, as well as providing ongoing in-service training for Field Personnel. Due to the increased complexity of police investigations, new resources in police training, police liability, and insight into the needs of personnel, the responsibilities of the Training Section have grown. Beyond the recruiting and in-service training the section does, there are also separate programs in the areas of Child Protection, Physical Fitness, Video Services, Canine Training, Firearms, and the Health Unit. In addition to providing the above services to State Police members, the training personnel are continually being asked to assist other law enforcement departments and Government Agencies in these areas. The following is a synopsis of each of the units in the Training Section.

### Training Unit

The Training Unit's responsibility is to research, develop, and institute training programs for sworn and civilian personnel in the Department. This Unit is also responsible for designing, implementing, coordinating and evaluating the training, and managing of the record keeping system for the Department training.

Courses were offered in Criminal Investigation, Advanced Accident Investigation, Child Abuse & Neglect Investigation, Criminal Interdiction, CPR and First Aid, Public Relations, DWI Legislative Updates, Solid and Hazardous Waste Dumping, Search and Seizure, Firearm Qualification, and many others.

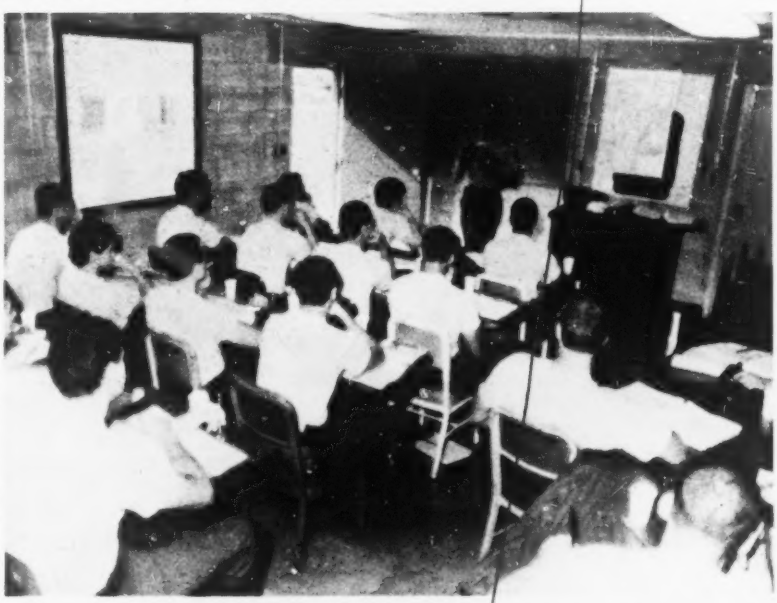
Members of the Vermont State Police were credited with approximately 45,357 hours of training.

### Recruiting and Recruit Training

The Recruiting Officer's responsibility includes creating recruiting programs to attract the best qualified people to become Troopers, coordinating and evaluating the applicant hiring process, and designing, conducting, and evaluating our recruit training.

Applicant testing was conducted six times at 60 day intervals.

Approximately 731 applicants were scheduled for testing and 386 applicants actually took the written test.



*Recruit class attending firearms instruction.*

Two recruit classes were conducted to train 35 new Troopers.

### Child Protection Unit

In September of 1988, the Commissioner of Public Safety, the Commissioner of Social and Rehabilitation Services, and the Vermont Attorney General entered into a cooperative agreement to coordinate investigative efforts between agencies that would facilitate the protection of, and the provision of services to, the child victim of abuse, neglect and/or exploitation. To fulfill this mandate, the Child Protection Unit was created within the Department. This Unit -

- Developed and implemented a Departmental policy and procedure which identifies the investigation of child abuse incidents as a priority.
- Developed and implemented a training bulletin, which serves as a guideline for the investigators of child abuse incidents.

- Developed a basic training program consisting of 40 hours which defines the problem of child abuse incidents and the resources available in the State for the investigator to access.
- Developed a library of printed literature, movies, and videos for use in training programs presented to Department personnel, other police agencies, and other state agencies.

**Physical Fitness Program**

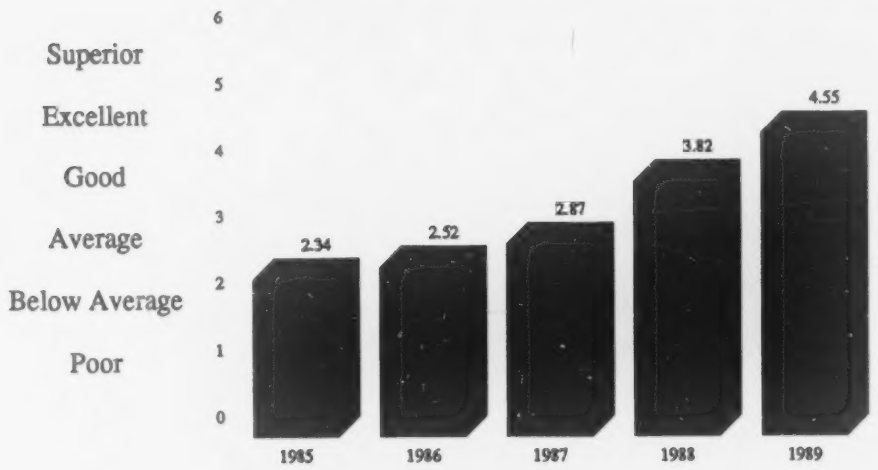
The purpose of the Physical Fitness Program is to build and maintain a high level of physical fitness, and to determine the Troopers current level of health and fitness by a periodical fitness assessment. The coordinator of this program is trained and certified by the Institute of Aerobic Research in Dallas, Texas as an Advanced Physical Fitness Instructor, and certified EMT in the event a medical emergency arises during physical assessments or recruit training.

This program is also responsible for coordinating the Department members' medical examination at the Given Health Center in Burlington. The frequency of examination for each member is based on their age. This exam keeps members of the Department much more aware of their overall physical well being.

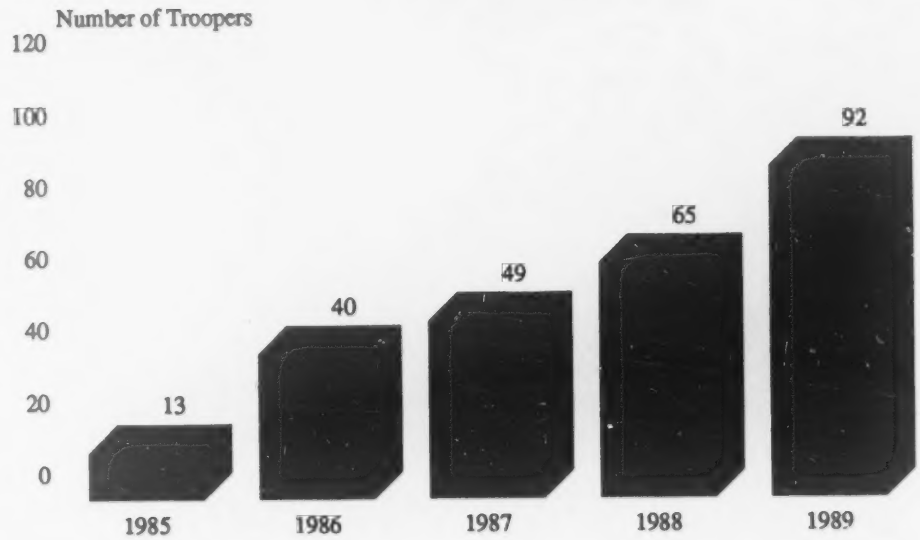
The Department now conducts semi-annual mandatory physical fitness assessments, with set standards for all Troopers employed after July 1, 1986. In addition, all Troopers who, on July 1, 1988, had not attained an age of 45, are required, as a condition of employment, to participate in all phases of the physical assessment program. Each Station has one Trooper assigned as a Fitness Leader to assist the Coordinator in conducting assessments at each office.

*Recruit class building their endurance.*

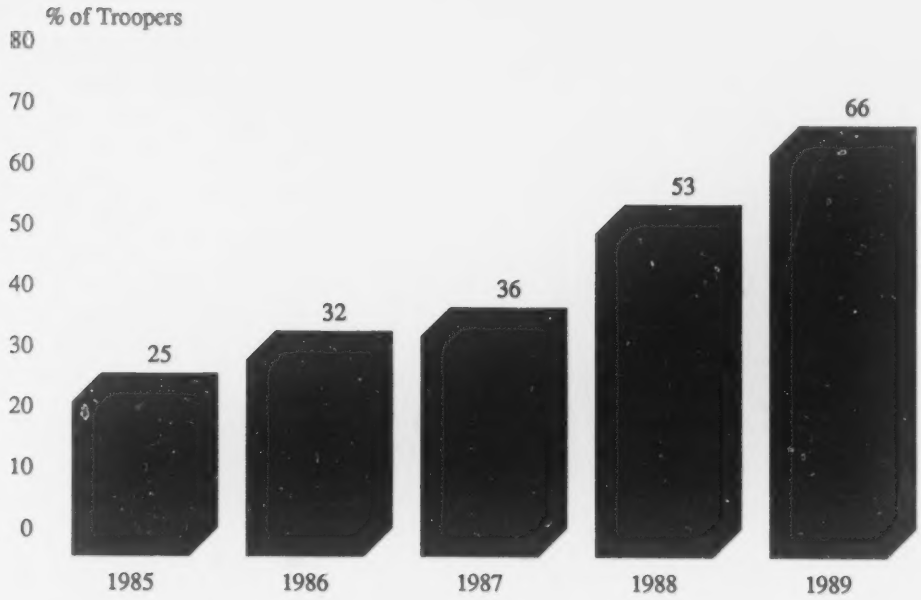
## Department Average Fitness Level




## Troopers Achieving Superior Fitness Level



## Troopers Achieving Good or Above Fitness Level




Twice a year a health risk appraisal is done and there has been a steady improvement in reducing risk factors of high blood pressure, high cholesterol, smoking, and inactivity.

Under a State Wellness Grant, 12 Schwinn Airdyne Units have been purchased and placed in each of the stations. This particular piece of equipment enhances one's aerobic capabilities when used properly, thus lowering the risk of Coronary Heart Disease.

### Video Services Unit

This Unit is responsible for operating and maintaining the Department's $170,000 worth of video equipment, and coordinating the Department's Firearms Program.

During Fiscal Year 1990, the Vermont State Police Video Unit provided services to various sections in all three Divisions of the Department and local Agencies throughout the State.

The USDOT awarded the Vermont State Police $28,500 in grants for the Motor Carrier Safety series, plus an additional $10,000 in the second half of Fiscal Year 1990.

Listed below is a breakdown on the number of videos produced in specific areas, and the time involved:

| | # | Hours |
|---|---|---|
| Public Service Announcements | 23 | 100 |
| Programs | 18 | 140 |
| Criminal | 9 | 38 |
| Duplication | 203 | 227 |

## Canine Unit

The Canine Unit has been in operation since 1979. The Vermont State Police provide both basic and in-service canine training for all law enforcement in the State. The majority of the training is conducted at the Vermont Police Academy in Pittsford. In-service training at field locations is conducted periodically. The 15 patrol dog teams are called upon by other agencies to perform fugitive trailing, building searches, drug searches, and a variety of other functions. The bloodhound is utilized for more difficult trailing assignments.

- 32 State and local canine teams received training from the Department's Canine Trainer, which includes training for patrol dogs, drug detection dogs, and one bomb detection dog.

Vermont State Police Canine Units responded to 646 calls for service. As a result, there were 34 felony and 45 misdemeanor arrests made, $78,770 worth of evidence recovered. Of the 646 calls for service, there were 192 calls for a drug detection canine, which resulted in $53,440 worth of drugs and drug currency being seized.

*Canine training at a field location.*

## AVIATION PROGRAM

The Department completed its third year of an exclusive lease of a 1978 Cessna 182. This is a single engine four place aircraft available to the department seven days a week. The aircraft is based at Burlington International Airport and is equipped with Loran C for navigation plus a 14 channel state police radio. The airplane is a multi-purpose craft which is used for marijuana eradication, photography, video taping, crime scene photography, executive transportation, plus the transportation of emergency repair supplies for various divisions.

- There were a total of 70 flights with this aircraft with a total of 104 flight hours.
- An air search was conducted in the case of an elderly and mentally handicapped man where time was of extreme importance.
- The Agency of Transportation used the aircraft and a pilot to transport personnel to a Governor's meeting in Maine.
- Aerial checks were made for an illegal dump site in the state.
- Homicide scenes were photographed for use in trials so as to interrogate suspects and display the photos to jurors.
- Aviation unit personnel attended safety seminars in Baltimore, Maryland, in connection with the Airborne Law Enforcement Association, and attended national conventions out of state. These included seminars on safety and accident investigation and other aviation matters.
- During the latter part of the fiscal year a panel was drawn to select a new Chief Pilot and another Department Pilot.
- The aviation unit has been operating under visual flight rules, but is being enhanced so as to increase utilization during inclement weather.

## VERMONT CRIMINAL INFORMATION CENTER

The Vermont Criminal Information Center (VCIC) was created by statute effective 1 July 1970, with its predecessor, the Department of Public Safety Identification and Records Division, becoming the nucleus for a statewide repository for all criminal activity records. The records created are intended to include data concerning the commission of crimes, arrests, convictions, photographs, physical descriptions, fingerprints and such other information as the Commissioner of Public Safety deems pertinent to criminal activity.

VCIC functions as a support service for all Vermont criminal justice agencies. The Center also maintains records of criminal activity, along with records tracking the criminal's contact with the judicial system.

- Two Fingerprint Technicians processed 6,217 new fingerprint cards, and 35,455 FBI Final Disposition Forms were processed and forwarded to the FBI to update the records they keep relating to offenses occurring within Vermont.
- During the calendar year 1989, 69.1% of the criminal record responses were "No Record", and 30.9% of the responses resulted in a criminal record being given.
- During the fiscal year, the Master Name Index, was completely automated; a process that took approximately nine months to complete. This automated system has eliminated 69% of the manual file access and terminal transmissions.
- The total NCIC entries made by VCIC staff decreased by 11.8% during this reporting period. The following figures reflect a breakdown of the entries for calendar year 1989: 1,086 articles, 591 missing persons, 118 wanted persons, 286 guns, 8 boats, 54 parts, and 1 securities.
- During the year, every terminal operator and records clerk in Vermont was given training in NCIC procedures. Fifteen 1-day sessions were provided and 290 participated. Every terminal agency was audited for VCIC and NCIC compliance.

**VERMONT CRIMINAL INFORMATION CENTER**
**ACTIVITY FOR CALENDAR YEARS 1988 & 1989**
**SUMMARY**

| | 1988 | 1989 |
|---|---|---|
| Criminal Records | 52,324 | 55,838 |
| NCIC Entries | 2,431 | 2,144 |
| Missing Persons Reported | 1,971 | 1,814 |
| Warrants (total 12/31) | 3,913 | 4,311 |
| Docket-Disposition Reports Received | 32,873 | 31,769 |
| Mugshots Received | 4,251 | 4,357 |
| State Police Investigations | 8,344 | 10,623 |
| State Police Supplements | 2,203 | 2,255 |
| Probation Discharges | 686 | 529 |
| Parole/Incarceration Forms | 383 | 129 |
| Microfilm Used (# of rolls) | 18 | 23 |
| Reports/Photos Sold | $8,877.50 | $8,047.50 |
| Record Expungements/Pardons | 265 | 264 |
| Juvenile Expungements | 176 | 140 |
| VLEIS Transactions | 559,993 | 556,212 |

## TRANSPORTATION

Special Services Garage, in addition to warranty work on the cruisers, tries to specialize in major repair work, leaving the small jobs and less expensive jobs to be done in outside garages where savings are not too great. In addition to servicing our motor vehicles, maintenance personnel at the shop also service and maintain approximately fifty snowmobiles, trailers, Emergency Management water pumps and generators and also transport departmental vehicles which have either been involved in accidents or have had mechanical failures.

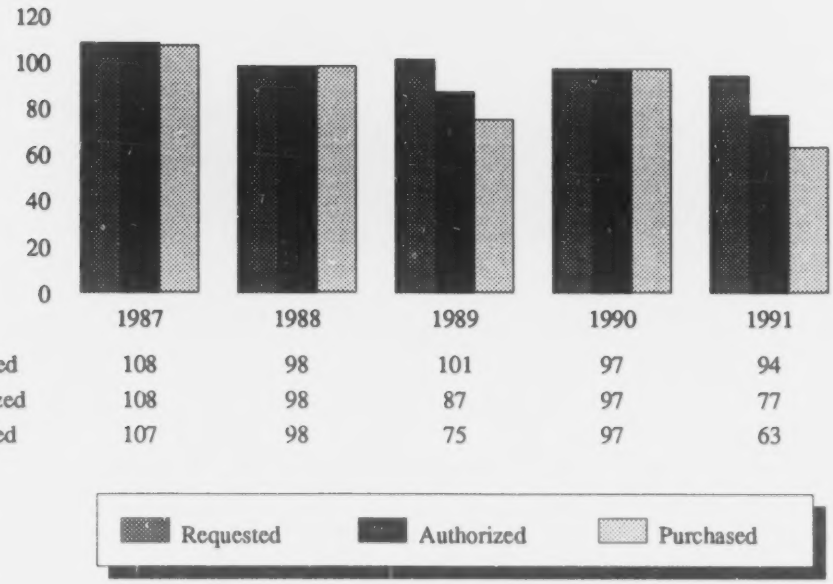
*Fully equipped State Police cruiser ready for patrol.*

The Special Services Garage maintains an inventory of new parts, tires, and salvage parts taken from vehicles which have been damaged in accidents or because of high mileage or cost of major repair are not sold at auction. During this reporting period, the following has been accomplished:

- Separated the Marine Maintenance Program from the Vehicle Maintenance Program.
- Hired a full-time marine mechanic. This person has been set up in his own work area, and extra tools and test equipment have been purchased for the marine program.
- Through negotiation with Ford, General Motors and Chrysler Corporation, we established ourselves as an "in-shop" warranty repair facility. This now provides the capability of doing all warranty work at our own shop, and new vehicles are drop-shipped to the repair shop rather than at a dealership. This capability saves approximately $75 per car in dealer preparation charges and subsequently reduces the manpower requirement previously needed to transport the new vehicles from the dealership to the shop.
- The color scheme of State Police cruisers has been changed. This has made the vehicles more attractive, and has reduced the cost to paint them at the factory. It has also saved the cost of repainting them when the vehicles are taken out of service and auctioned. Savings for this new color scheme is approximately $300 per car.
- Approximately $45,000 was saved in Fiscal Year 1990 by doing as much work as possible in our own garage versus using outside garages.
- Through contract purchases and other purchases, approximately $46,000 was saved in parts alone by having the Special Services Garage furnish as many parts as possible from our own inventory in addition to salvage parts furnished.
- The use of salvage parts has saved approximately $35,000 in the last fiscal year.
- During Fiscal Year 1990 State Police vehicles traveled approximately 7.25 million miles at an operating cost of approximately 5 1/2 cents per mile.
- Fuel economy continues to improve with an overall fleet average of 15.1 miles per gallon.

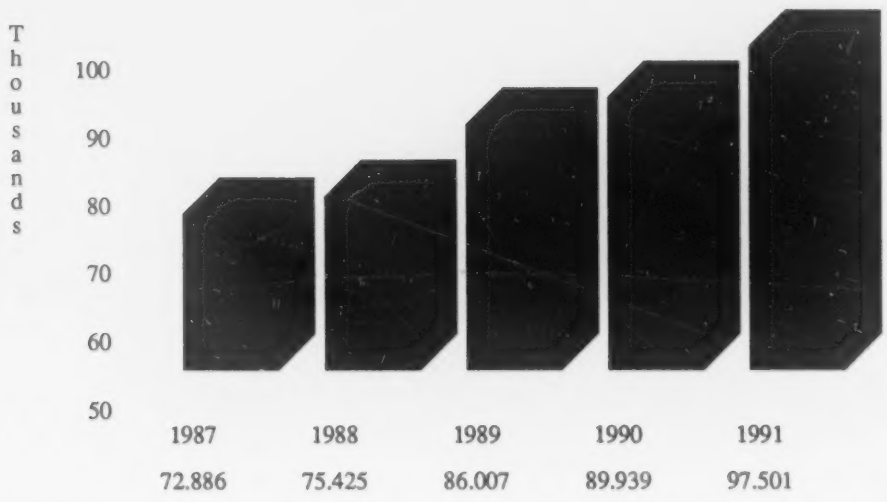
We are continuing to upgrade the fleet program and the manner in which we maintain our vehicles in the repair shop. It is the intention of the Fleet Manager to expand the capabilities of the maintenance program within this coming fiscal year. Some minor repairs and other maintenance operations will be done in the field by having a mechanic travel to the twelve other stations from time to time rather than having these vehicles travel to the Colchester garage.

# Department of Public Safety
## Fleet Purchases




| | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Requested | 108 | 98 | 101 | 97 | 94 |
| Authorized | 108 | 98 | 87 | 97 | 77 |
| Purchased | 107 | 98 | 75 | 97 | 63 |

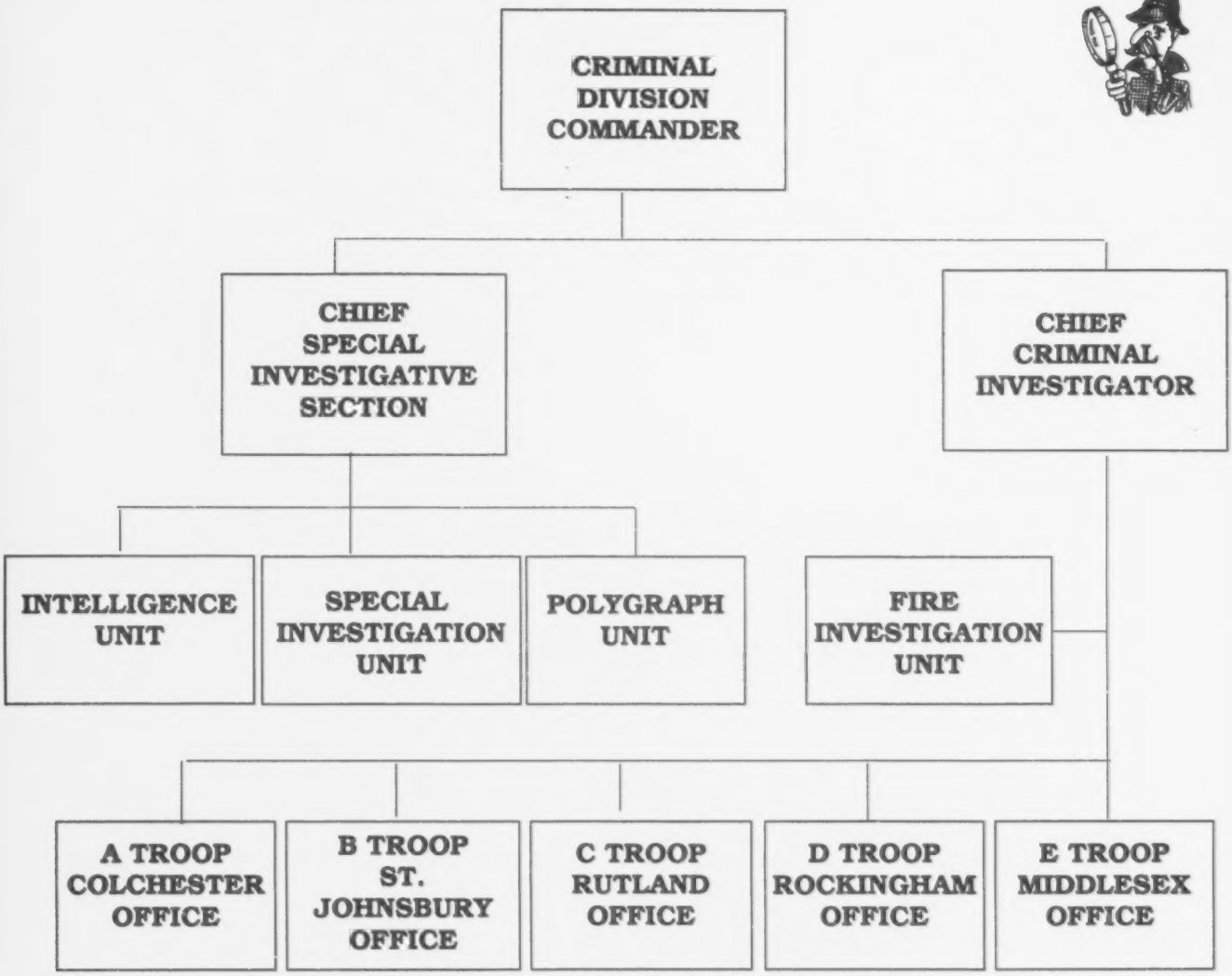
## Average Mileage at Auction




| 1987 | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 72.886 | 75.425 | 86.007 | 89.939 | 97.501 |

1991 - Projected

# CRIMINAL DIVISION

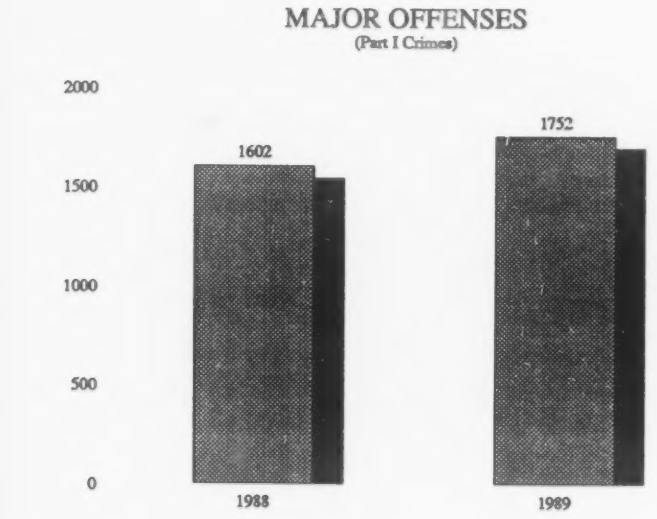



As it enters its thirtieth year, the Criminal Division is justifiably famous for its record of solving some of Vermont's most notorious cases and for applying the highest standards of investigative techniques to all criminal activities, ranging from homicides to burglaries. By statute, the Criminal Division has the responsibility of investigating major crime and supplementing the investigative capabilities of municipal police departments. The Criminal Division is also comprised of behind-the-scenes support units that buttress the more visible activities without which the law enforcement community would be hard-pressed to perform effectively. These units are the Special Investigations Unit *(Narcotics)*, Fire Investigations Unit, Intelligence Unit, and the Polygraph Unit.

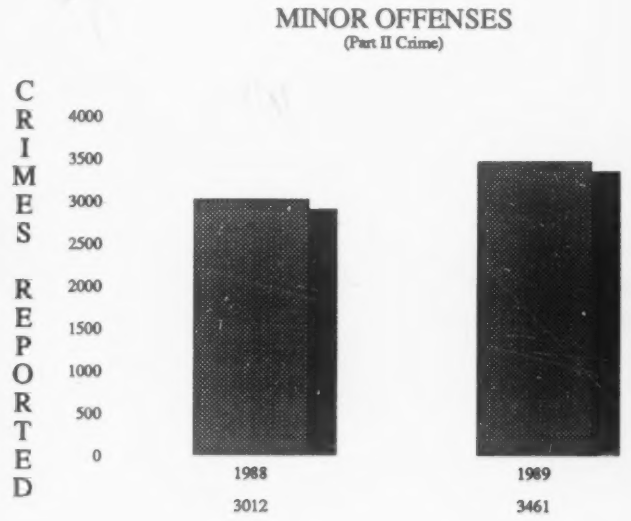
## TROOP A

| | |
|---|---|
| **Area Square Miles** | 1580 |
| **Towns Covered** | 35 |
| **Personnel** | 10 |

The "A" Troop investigative hub is located within the Colchester State Police station. Personnel are also assigned to the St. Albans station and the Lamoille office. This contingent of ten investigators is primarily responsible for crimes occurring in the Northwestern sector of Vermont. The graphs below depict the overall criminal activity investigated by "A" Troop personnel during the past two years.



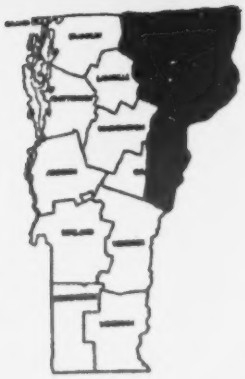

Clearance Rate 16.2%



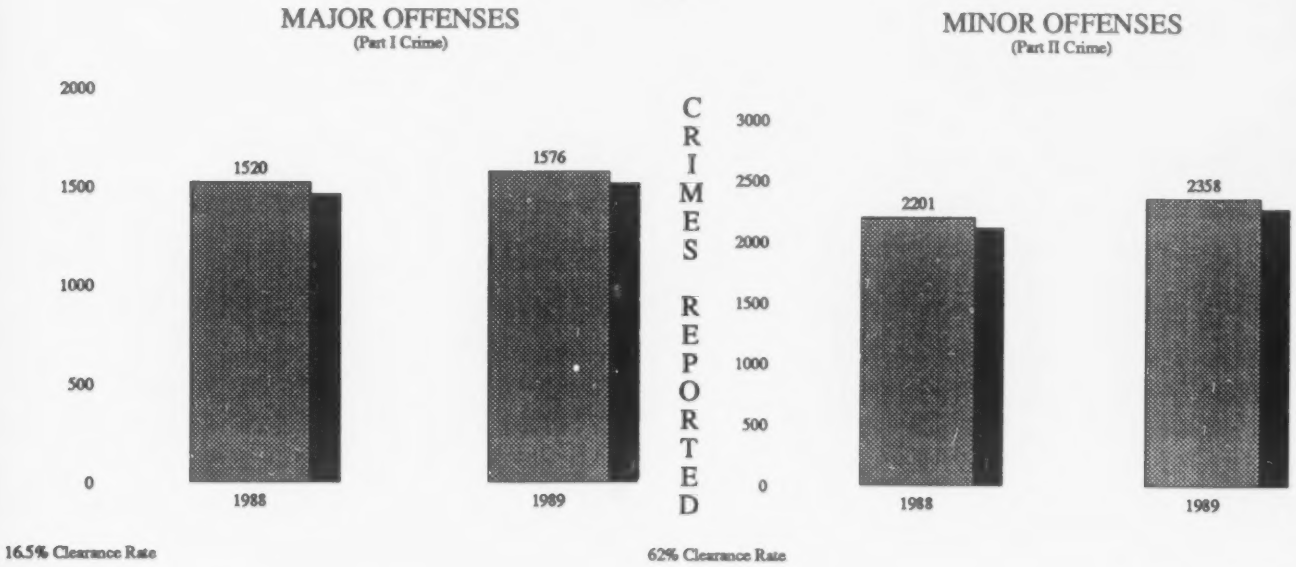

Clearance Rate 71.5%

## TROOP B

| | |
|---|---|
| **Area Square Miles** | 2569 |
| **Towns Covered** | 63 |
| **Personnel** | 6 |



The "B" Troop investigative hub is located within the St. Johnsbury State Police station. Personnel are also assigned to the Bradford station and the Derby station. This contingent of six investigators is primarily responsible for crimes occurring in the Northeastern sector of Vermont. The graphs below depict the overall criminal activity investigated by Troop "B" personnel during the past two years.



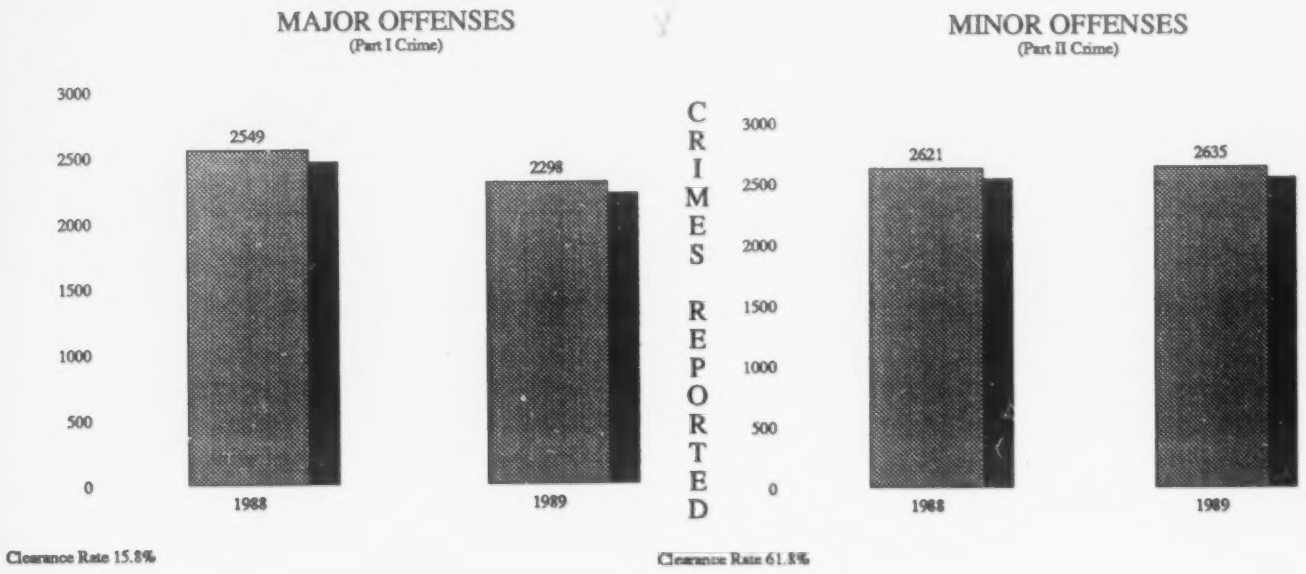

16.5% Clearance Rate

62% Clearance Rate

## TROOP C

| | |
|---|---|
| **Area Square Miles** | 2430 |
| **Towns Covered** | 55 |
| **Personnel** | 9 |

The "C" Troop investigative hub is located within the Rutland State Police station. Personnel are also assigned to the Shaftsbury station and the Middlebury station. This contingent of nine investigators is primarily responsible for crimes occurring in the Southwestern sector of Vermont. Below are graphs which depict the overall criminal activity investigated by Troop "C" personnel during the past two years.



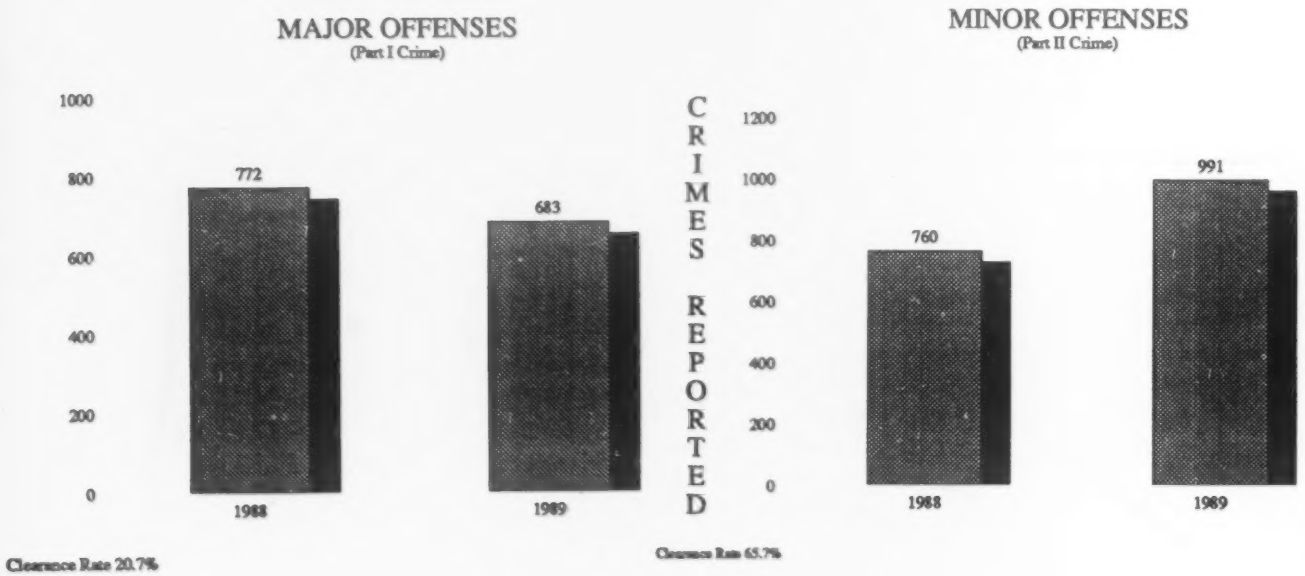

Clearance Rate 15.8%

Clearance Rate 61.8%

## TROOP D

| | |
|---|---|
| **Area Square Miles** | 1019 |
| **Towns Covered** | 29 |
| **Personnel** | 5 |

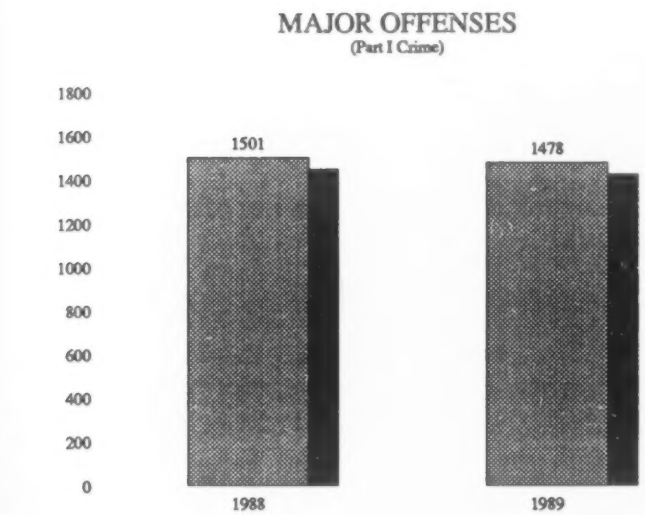
The Troop "D" investigative hub is located within the Rockingham State Police station. Personnel are also assigned to the Brattleboro station. This contingent of five investigators is primarily responsible for crimes occurring in the Southeastern sector of Vermont. The below graphs depict the overall criminal activity investigated by Troop "D" personnel during the past two years.



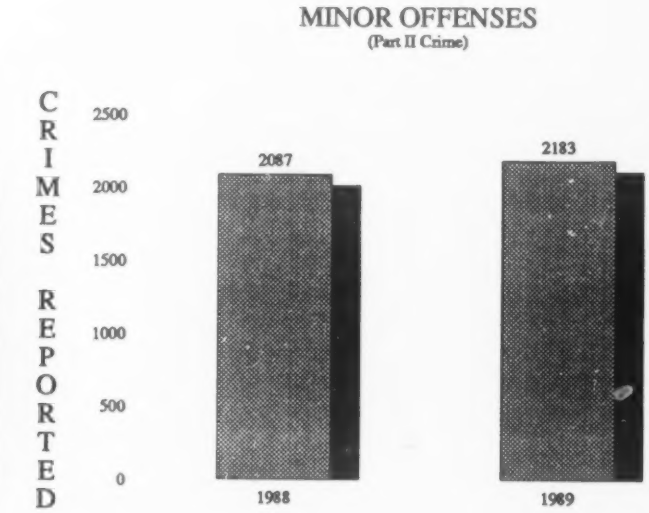
## TROOP E

| | |
|---|---|
| **Area Square Miles** | 1420 |
| **Towns Covered** | 40 |
| **Personnel** | 6 |

The Troop "E" investigative hub is located within the Middlesex State Police station. Personnel are also assigned to the Bethel station. This contingent of six investigators is primarily responsible for crimes occurring in central Vermont. The below graphs depict the overall criminal activity investigated by Troop "E" personnel during the past two years.




Clearance Rate 21.7%




Clearance Rate 58.1%

| Criminal Division<br>Summary of Activity<br>Calendar Year 1989 | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Initial Investigations | Co-operative Investigation | | | |
| Description | | Out-of State | VSP | Federal | Local Agencies |
| Simple Assault | 20 | 1 | 12 | 0 | 1 |
| Aggravated Assault | 23 | 1 | 19 | 0 | 10 |
| Reckless Endangerment | 6 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 |
| Arson | 5 | 1 | 11 | 0 | 1 |
| Breaking & Entering | 60 | 13 | 205 | 0 | 66 |
| Homicide | 9 | 44 | 35 | 2 | 24 |
| Suicide | 63 | 0 | 22 | 0 | 4 |
| Natural | 113 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Accidental | 40 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 1 |
| Undetermined | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Grand Larceny | 30 | 1 | 22 | 0 | 9 |
| Petit Larceny | 11 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Sexual Assault | 57 | 3 | 30 | 2 | 7 |
| Lewd & Lascivious | 28 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| Sexual Assault (Minor) | 66 | 2 | 12 | 0 | 3 |
| Lewd & Lascivious (Minor) | 64 | 2 | 11 | 1 | 0 |
| Sale of Drugs | 66 | 10 | 107 | 9 | 21 |
| Possession of Drugs | 65 | 3 | 72 | 11 | 15 |
| Cultivation | 21 | 0 | 14 | 6 | 5 |
| Criminal Trespass | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| Embezzlement | 14 | 2 | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| Bad Checks | 24 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Fraud | 43 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| Forgery | 15 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Intelligence Gathering | 433 | 4 | 17 | 2 | 1 |
| Kidnapping | 10 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 0 |
| Prostitution | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Custodial Interference | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Stolen Property | 26 | 16 | 24 | 0 | 14 |
| Vandalism | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Weapons Violation | 5 | 3 | 2 | 18 | 1 |
| Hunting Accident | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Self-inflicted wounds | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 3 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Robbery (Armed) | 6 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 11 |
| Robbery (Unarmed) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Special Assignment | 37 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 1 |
| Investigation other Depts. | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Background Investigation | 52 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Training | 187 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Public Speaking | 23 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Instructing Courses | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 166 | 6 | 86 | 15 | 22 |
| **TOTAL ALL TROOPS** | **1828** | **120** | **788** | **70** | **230** |

## MAJOR CRIME RESPONSE TEAM

Cases involving homicide or serious violent crimes are responded to by various components of the Criminal Division. In 1988, the Department of Public Safety organized an Ad Hoc group of investigators to address these crimes.

Two key components to this team are:

- An investigator assigned to the Medical Examiner's Office who responds to all crime scenes where homicide is suspected, regardless of jurisdiction.

Five additional investigators to supplant the investigative manpower of the State Police district or the municipal police departments. The additional investigators provide immediate resolution for the magnitude of leads which surface during these heinous attacks. This method allows us to quickly identify the perpetrator and deal with him or her rapidly. Immediate arrest and prosecution restores a sense of order and confidence back to the community which was shaken by a tragic event.

## FIRE INVESTIGATION UNIT

The Fire Investigation Unit is responsible for statewide fire investigations with the goal of detection, apprehension and prosecution of arsonists. Unit detectives provide the fire service with investigative expertise to determine cause and origin of fires. They are often called upon to testify as expert witnesses in criminal and civil proceedings.

The Unit currently is comprised of seven Detective Sergeants who are assigned throughout the state and supervised by the Troop Detective Lieutenant in their respective assigned areas.

### TRENDS OF THE PAST TEN YEARS

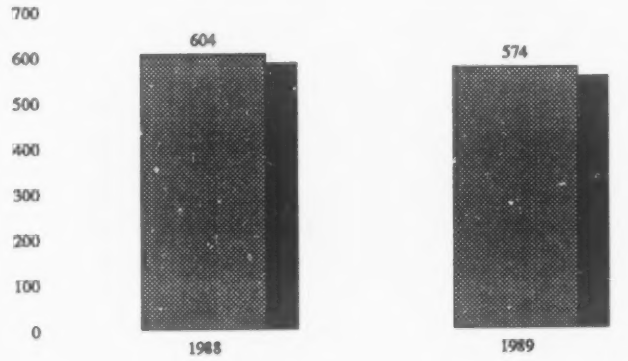
| | 1980 | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 | 1984 | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fires Investigated | 585 | 560 | 474 | 480 | 452 | 467 | 463 | 422 | 467 | 436 |
| Number of Arsons | 281 | 271 | 197 | 229 | 200 | 183 | 145 | 145 | 130 | 137 |
| Juveniles Involved *(Arson)* | 42 | 32 | 14 | 16 | 6 | 14 | 4 | 4 | 10 | 13 |
| Juveniles Involved *(Other)* | 16 | 16 | 9 | 14 | 2 | 23 | 18 | 25 | 27 | 16 |
| Adults Arrested *(Arson)* | 85 | 46 | 29 | 67 | 52 | 15 | 27 | 28 | 26 | 41 |
| Deaths Resulting From Fire | 14 | 13 | 20 | 26 | 21 | 14 | 14 | 9 | 14 | 7 |

## POLYGRAPH UNIT

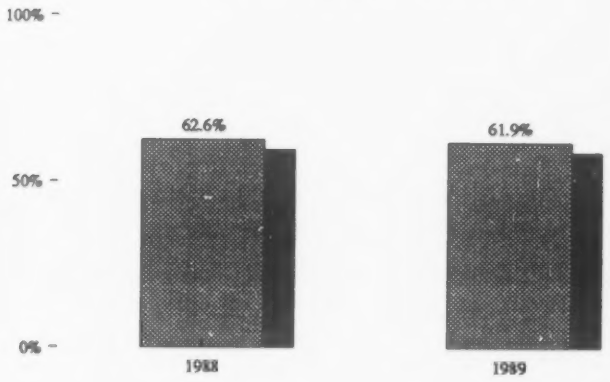
The Polygraph Unit has been conducting examinations since 1958. Examinations are conducted throughout the state on behalf of local police, Sheriff's Departments, State's Attorneys, Public Defenders, and courts in addition to Department personnel. Preemployment examinations are conducted on all State Police applicants and many candidates for employment within local police and Sheriff's Departments.

The Polygraph Unit is used primarily as an investigative aid and provides technical assistance to any enforcement officer during ongoing investigations. The use of the polygraph in criminal investigations dramatically reduces investigative time and cost. The detection of deception technique eliminates truthful persons from suspicion and quickly identifies deceptive persons.

POLYGRAPH UNIT
CASE WORKLOAD




POLYGRAPH UNIT
CONFESSION RATE



## INTELLIGENCE UNIT

The primary function of the Intelligence Unit is to gather intelligence data used in the formulation of a strategic plan to accurately assess and combat crimes of any nature confronting the state of Vermont.

The Intelligence Unit collects tactical data and provides that information to a conglomerate of operational units within the law enforcement community *(federal, state, and municipal)*. Tactical data is collated and assessed from incoming raw intelligence on a daily basis, enabling the unit to focus and monitor current criminal elements. From this standpoint, a practical direction can be applied.

### Governor's Security Detail

The Governor's Security Detail's primary function is to provide protection to the Governor of the state. The Unit consists of three State Police officers who are, on certain occasions, supplemented by officers from other divisions of State Police.

## SPECIAL INVESTIGATION UNIT

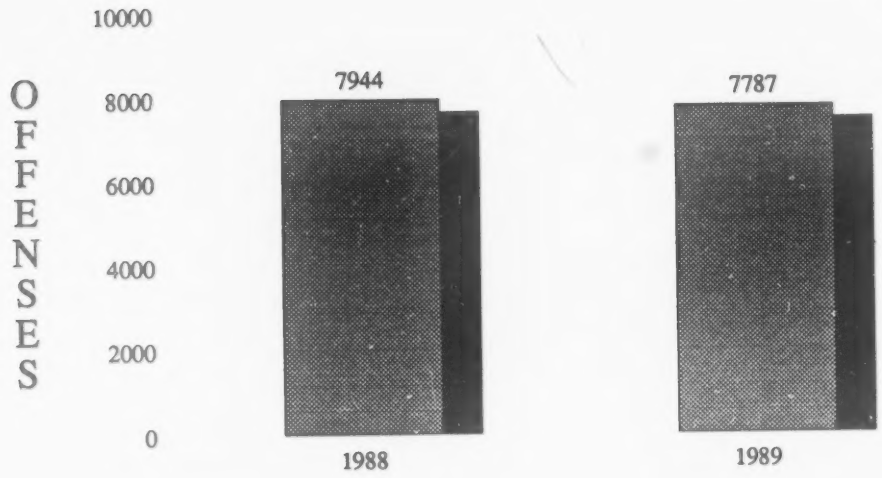
The Special Investigations Unit is charged primarily with investigating drug trafficking throughout the state. The majority of Troopers assigned to SIU are assigned to either the Northern or Southern Drug Task Force and concentrate their efforts on mid- to upper-level drug dealers. These Troopers are responsible for the "undercover" aspect of policing statewide. While the main emphasis is on drug crimes, undercover Troopers also may work on cases ranging from stolen property to murder as the need for their expertise dictates.

This unit is also responsible for investigating the diversion of legitimate prescription drugs into the illegal market. To accomplish this objective Unit members conduct field audits of pharmacies and rely heavily on the medical profession in order to initiate cases of prescription fraud.

*Large hydroponic crop of marijuana.*

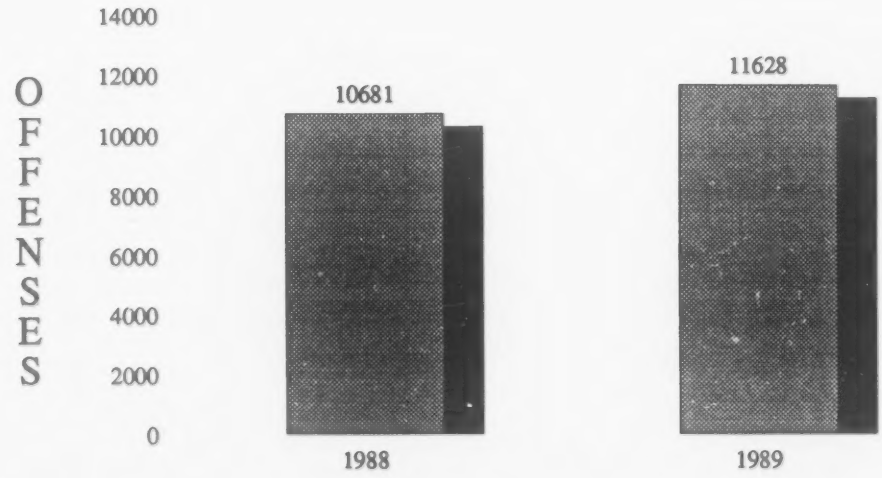
**These graphs depict the overall criminal activity investigated by the entire Division of State Police during the past two years.**

## TOTAL PART I CRIMES
## 1988 vs. 1989




1.9% Decrease

## TOTAL PART II CRIMES
## 1988 vs. 1989




8.9% Increase

## STATE POLICE OFFENSE COMPARISON
## CALENDAR YEAR 1988 vs. 1989

| MAJOR OFFENSES - PART I | | |
|---|---|---|
| **REPORTED** | **1988** | **1989** |
| Breaking & Entering | 2528 | 2373 |
| Larceny | 4499 | 4553 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 442 | 417 |
| Robbery | 18 | 14 |
| Aggravated Assault | 226 | 173 |
| Rape | 45 | 44 |
| Homicide | 9 | 5 |
| Arson | 177 | 208 |
| **Total Reported** | **7944** | **7787** |
| **ACTUAL** | | |
| Breaking & Entering | 2361 | 2236 |
| Larceny | 4243 | 4309 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 361 | 336 |
| Robbery | 17 | 14 |
| Aggravated Assault | 211 | 172 |
| Rape | 37 | 39 |
| Homicide | 9 | 5 |
| Arson | 176 | 207 |
| **Total Actual** | **7415** | **7318** |

| MINOR OFFENSES - PART II | | |
|---|---|---|
| **REPORTED** | **1988** | **1989** |
| Simple Assault | 873 | 916 |
| Forgery | 158 | 116 |
| Fraud | 809 | 828 |
| Embezzlement | 36 | 36 |
| Stolen Property | 245 | 237 |
| Vandalism | 3098 | 3482 |
| Weapons Violations | 10 | 15 |
| Sex Offenses | 413 | 440 |
| Drug Violations | 986 | 1196 |
| Offense/Family/Child | 206 | 205 |
| Liquor Violations | 150 | 238 |
| Disorderly Conduct | 1494 | 1546 |
| Trespass | 813 | 848 |
| Kidnapping | 29 | 21 |
| Escape | 68 | 63 |
| Unattended Death/Suicide | 272 | 275 |
| Bomb Threats | 26 | 28 |
| Other Reportable | 995 | 1139 |
| **Total Reported** | **10681** | **11628** |
| **ACTUAL** | | |
| Simple Assault | 726 | 802 |
| Forgery | 147 | 109 |
| Fraud | 739 | 758 |
| Embezzlement | 31 | 33 |
| Stolen Property | 234 | 226 |
| Vandalism | 2899 | 3324 |
| Weapons Violations | 9 | 14 |
| Sex Offenses | 359 | 394 |
| Drug Violations | 935 | 1146 |
| Offense/Family/Child | 179 | 189 |
| Liquor Violations | 141 | 235 |
| Disorderly Conduct | 1139 | 1313 |
| Trespass | 659 | 709 |
| Kidnapping | 22 | 18 |
| Escape | 62 | 58 |
| Unattended Death/Suicide | 242 | 252 |
| Bomb Threats | 23 | 25 |
| Other Reportable | 903 | 1066 |
| **Total Actual** | **9449** | **10671** |

# VERMONT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Vermont Emergency Management *(VEM)*, previously known as Vermont Civil Defense, is a division of the Department of Public Safety. The Division was created by the Vermont Civil Defense Act of 1951. *(Act 224, Section 4, Acts of 1951)*

The law describes the purpose of the Division's creation; *"... to protect the public peace, health, and safety and to preserve the lives and property of the people of the state ..."*.

Vermont Emergency Management functions in four areas:

- ✔ **Mitigation** - Involves actions which will reduce or eliminate the effect of emergency or disaster situations. It is fast being recognized as the desirable "ounce of prevention". Reducing future losses not only spares human suffering, but is cost effective.
- ✔ **Preparedness** - is accomplished through planning and training and provides the organized and skilled capability to deal with events which cannot be totally mitigated.
- ✔ **Response** - involves emergency operations during periods of crisis. VEM is the primary coordinator of State emergency response agencies, the liaison with Federal Emergency Management Agency *(FEMA)*.
- ✔ **Recovery** - provides the mechanism through which the repair of disaster damages is possible. In Vermont, recovery involves State emergency funds and Federal disaster assistance.

FY 1990 was barely a month old when Vermont Emergency Management became involved with a flash flood disaster. The events which occurred on August 4 and 5, 1989 eventually involved all four functional emergency management areas. VEM coordinated the State response from the State Emergency Operations Center in Waterbury.

Preliminary damage assessment indicated sufficient damages to merit a request for Federal aid. VEM prepared the necessary documentation and assisted Governor Kunin in preparing a request to President Bush. Vermont received a Presidential Declaration of a Major Disaster *(FEMA-840-DR-VT)* under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1988 *(PL 100-707)*.

It was the first time that the new disaster assistance law was implemented in New England by FEMA, Region One, and appropriate for Vermont to receive the first benefits of legislation which bears the name of Vermont's retired Senior Senator, Robert T. Stafford.

The recently completed Vermont State Administrative Plan for Public Assistance, required under the Stafford Act, was used as a vehicle for the delivery of disaster assistance to impacted local governments. The newly authorized *(Section 404, PL 100-707)* Hazard Mitigation Grant program was implemented with several applications for mitigation projects processed. The final total of Federal disaster assistance will amount to more than one and a half million dollars, paying for 75% of the cost of repairs to roads and bridges in thirty three Vermont communities.

There were eight other flooding events during FY 1990, but none reached the proportions of the August flood. Two severe winter storms delayed the opening of businesses and State offices. Six ice jams caused some isolated flooding and resulted in minor property damages.

Significant hazardous materials incidents occurred at a rate averaging slightly more than ten per month throughout the year. The majority involved accidents or spills of petroleum products. One plane crash created a unique jet fuel clean-up challenge.

There were twelve power outage events, two of which were potential disasters with large segments of the population without electricity for extended periods of time. A serious propane shortage followed the coldest December on record. The lack of adequate supplies affected many Vermont communities, and only the continual efforts by State officials and strong support from Vermont's Congressional representatives provided the pressure necessary to alter the flow of propane into the

northeast and avert calamity. Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant held a scheduled full scale exercise on August 23, 1989. The State participated under the Vermont Radiological Emergency Response Plan with satisfactory performance. Two days later, an Unusual Event occurred at the other Yankee plant in Rowe, Massachusetts with an another appropriate response by Vermont.

In addition to the emergency response activities, VEM began assuming responsibility for assisting the State Emergency Response Commission (under SARA, Title III) to develop the Hazardous Materials Emergency Plans necessary to comply with the Federal Law. Local Emergency Planning Committees *(LEPCs)* were given guidance and support and six Public Officials Conferences were held to specifically assist the LEPCs. Thirty two hazardous materials related training courses and seminars and two exercises were conducted. Training activities included the presentation of several basic emergency management courses and workshops. The popular "Introduction to Emergency Management" and "Emergency Management Workshop" were well attended. The annual conduct of the "Exercise Design Course" provided another group with the expertise necessary to conduct meaningful exercises. Some specialized courses included the Emergency Broadcast System Workshop for radio and television people, and the Continuity of Government Course for Vermont State government officials. Trained Radiological Defense personnel provided several levels of instruction on radiation and the use of radiation detection equipment.

*Road damage from an early summer flood in Central Vermont.*

Vermont Emergency Management assisted in the conduct of a workshop concerned specifically with coping with potential oil spills on Lake Champlain. VEM personnel provided support in the development of a Lake Champlain Oil Spill Plan.

Vermont participated in two national security exercise with FEMA. State officials and private industry representatives participated in the State emergency operations center activities during CIVEX 90, facing the challenges of massive destruction and associated logistical problems.

Eight local governments received funding in FY 1990 through the Emergency Management Assistance program. Barre City, Barre Town, Burlington, Hartford, Montpelier, St. Johnsbury, Rutland and Springfield participated with local Emergency Operations Plans being developed and improved.

# ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

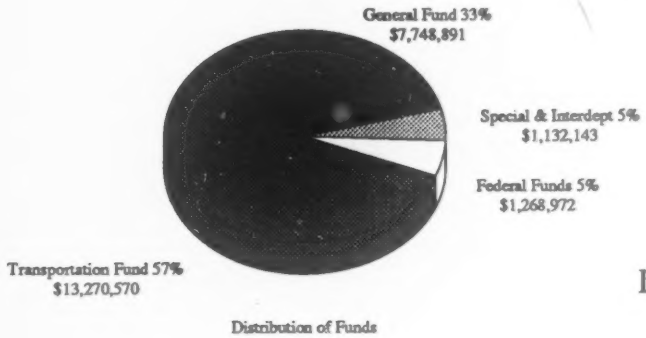
Administrative Services provides the financial, administrative, personnel, payroll, and supply management services for the Department. Statistically, Administrative Services includes three percent of the Department's workforce while salary costs average only 1.7 percent of the total budget.

The two major Department programs are State Police and Emergency Management with combined expenditures of $23,420,576 in Fiscal Year 1990. The State Police program is far and away the largest of the two representing 96 percent of the total department costs.

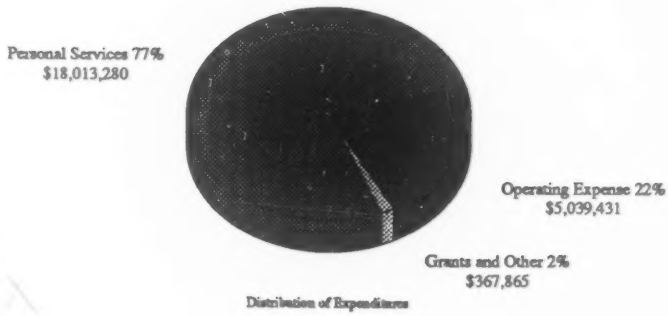
| DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY<br>FISCAL YEAR 1990 EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAM | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | **STATE POLICE** | **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT** | **TOTAL** |
| Personnel Services | $17,496,588 | $516,692 | **$18,013,280** |
| Operating Expense | 4,832,403 | 207,028 | **5,039,431** |
| Grants and Other | 236,385 | 131,480 | **367,865** |
| **TOTAL** | **$22,565,376** | **$855,200** | **$23,420,576** |
| **Source of Funds:** | | | |
| General Fund | $7,597,506 | $151,385 | **$7,748,891** |
| Transportation Fund | 13,200,487 | 70,083 | **13,270,570** |
| Federal Funds | 733,293 | 535,679 | **1,268,972** |
| Special Funds | 446,251 | 98,053 | **544,304** |
| Interdepartmental Funds | 587,839 | - 0 - | **587,839** |
| **TOTAL** | **$22,565,376** | **$855,200** | **$23,420,576** |

*Figure 1* shows the distribution of Department expenditures by major funding source and *figure 2* represents the relationship of these expenditures by major object. *Figure 3* provides some historical perspective on expenditures over the past five years.

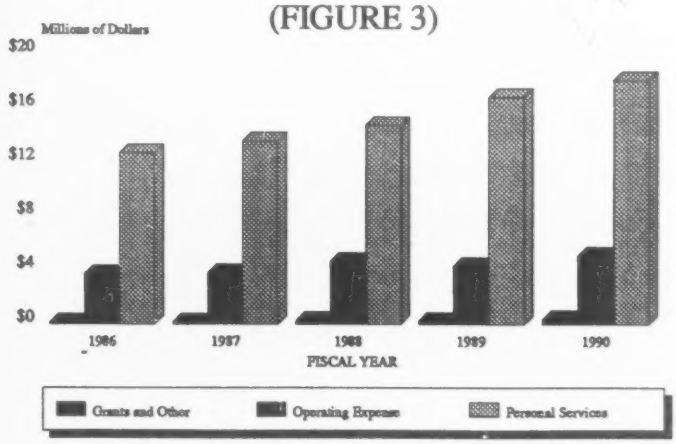
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
EXPENDITURES BY SOURCE OF FUNDS FY 1990
(FIGURE 1)




DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
EXPENDITURES BY MAJOR OBJECT FY 1990
(FIGURE 2)




DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
EXPENDITURES BY MAJOR OBJECT
FISCAL YEARS 1986 - 1990
(FIGURE 3)



## Personnel

The personnel office is responsible for the administration of recruitment, testing, hiring, and promotional policies. In addition to carrying out these functions, this office must also ensure that all guaranteed benefits are properly administered after hiring.

The personnel office also handles matters involving worker's compensation, payroll status, medical examinations, performance evaluations, leave accrual benefits, disability, and service retirement counseling.

During this reporting period personnel worked with the Vermont State Employees Association and Department employees in administering a major reclassification action within Public Safety. As a result of this coordinated effort, all clerk dispatchers were reclassified in recognition of a number of significant changes to their duties and responsibilities which have occurred over the last several years. Authorized strength was increased by the addition of three Trooper positions and a Boating Safety Program Sergeant position bringing the State Police strength to 290 positions. A total of four additional civilian classified positions were authorized during fiscal year 1990. Two Boating Safety Program positions and one laboratory position were approved. A communication technician was authorized via the reallocation of statewide vacancies pursuant to a request for an additional technician. Civilian classified authorized positions were 145 at the end of Fiscal Year 1990.

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**
**AUTHORIZED POSITIONS**

| Program | Civilian Classified | State Police | Exempt |
|---|---|---|---|
| State Police | 132 | 290 | 3 |
| Emergency Management | 13 | - 0 - | 1 |
| **Total** | **145** | **290** | **4** |

# OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER/DIRECTOR

## Staff Operations and Internal Affairs

During the past year **Staff Operations** has updated and reprinted the Vermont State Police Policy and Procedures manual and instructed the recruit classes on the manual. In addition, the pamphlets providing battered women with the names and phone numbers of assisting agencies was compiled and printed. The pamphlet is currently being reprinted to reflect the new law changes.

Staff operations is also responsible for compiling the information and news articles that appear in the Vermont State Police Newsletter. This has been published three times a year, and we hope to maintain that schedule.

The tracking of the awards nominations has been delegated to Staff Operations. The goal is to process the nominations and present the awards to the recipient within ninety days.

In 1989 the **Internal Affairs** Division investigated thirty-four improper and misconduct complaints. Nineteen were either unfounded or unsubstantiated. Nine cases were dealt with administratively and charges were filed by the Commissioner in the remaining six cases.

## Planning Office

The Planning Office was established at the start of this reporting period by the authority vested in the Commissioner of Public Safety. This office works closely with various departmental personnel in the development of new techniques, procedures, and ideas for improving the Department's level of efficiency and effectiveness. It is the responsibility of the Planning Office to assist the Commissioner and the division directors in clearly identifying the mission and goals of the organization. The Planning Office also conducts studies, performs research, and provides management assistance in matters pertaining to Departmental needs and changes.

During this reporting period, some of the major accomplishments of the Planning Office include the following:

- Spent considerable time researching the new Act 200 land use law and drafted the Department of Public Safety's Act 200 Plan.
- In cooperation with the Support Services Division, the Planning office developed a Federal grant proposal for a "Vermont Incident Based Reporting System." The federal Bureau of Justice Statistics has awarded $256,000 in federal funds to this Department to implement the proposed project.
- Reviewed a U.S. Department of Justice publication "Draft Report on Systems for Identifying Felons Who Attempt to Purchase Firearms." Submitted an analysis report to the U.S. Department of Justice on the results of this review.
- Represented the Department on various committees and study groups, such as the State Agency Energy Task Force and the Act 200 State Agency Planning Coordination Group.